

Reagan offers Moscow cut in nuclear missiles

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 18

President Reagan in his first major foreign policy announcement today restated America's commitment to a strong Atlantic Alliance but offered to negotiate sweeping arms cuts in Europe with the Soviet Union.

He said America would cancel plans to deploy 572 Pershing 2 and ground-based cruise missiles in Europe if the Soviet Union dismantled all of its SS20 and other medium-range missiles targeted against Western Europe.

In what he described as a "simple, straightforward yet historic message" to the Soviet Union, President Reagan announced a four-point programme to achieve the mutual reduction of conventional intermediate-range nuclear and strategic forces.

The plan also called for a reduction in conventional forces and agreement on Western proposals designed to reduce the risk of surprise attack.

Details of the American plan were sent to Mr Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet leader, shortly before the President made his speech this morning.

The 25-minute speech, given to the National Press Club in Washington, was designed to have "maximum impact in Europe and was broadcast live by satellite to America's NATO allies.

Speaking in slow, measured tones, the President said that his proposal to eliminate all medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe would be an historic step.

He went on: "With Soviet agreement, we could together substantially reduce the dread threat of nuclear war which hangs over the people of Europe. This, like the first footstep on the moon, would be a giant step for mankind."

The American proposal for eliminating intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe will be the opening negotiating position of the United States in the missile-reduction talks opened in Geneva on November 30.

A senior Administration official who briefed journalists shortly before the President spoke emphasized that the American proposal, which has become known in NATO circles as the zero option, was "bold, serious and submitted in good faith."

However, American officials have cautioned that the chances of gaining Soviet acceptance of the zero option were very slim.

What the United States is really hoping to achieve is a substantial reduction in the number of Soviet missiles targeted against Western Europe in exchange for a cut in the number of Pershing 2s and land-based cruise missiles the United States will deploy.

The President's speech, which he described as a programme for peace, was clearly designed to offset rising European concern about America's nuclear intentions and to reinforce the hand of its NATO partners against the growing anti-nuclear movement in Europe.

It was also designed to play a vital role in the all-important propaganda contest taking place between the United States and the Soviet Union in Europe.

The offer to cancel the deployment of American medium-range missiles in Europe was the first, most important, of the President's four proposals.

He said the United States intended to negotiate in good faith at Geneva and to consider carefully the proposals of the Soviet Union. However, the President, using colourful graphics to make his point, directly rejected Mr Brezhnev's freeze offer by pointing out that the Soviet Union had 1,100 warheads on its medium-range missiles while the United States had no comparable missiles.

Emphasising that the scope of strategic arms talks should be broadened to embrace an overall reduction and not just the limitation in the number of nuclear weapons in the hands of the two superpowers, the President said that the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks would be renamed "Start" (Strategic Arms Reduction Talks) by the United States.

This was the second point in his programme.

The President's third proposal called for the attainment of "equality at lower levels of conventional forces in Europe." He noted that the Soviet Union had more combat divisions in East Germany today than when the whole allied invasion force that landed in Normandy on D-Day.

Finally, the President called on the Soviet Union to accept Western proposals aimed at reducing the risks of surprise attack.

Continued on back page, col 1

England through to cup finals

England qualified for the World Cup finals for the first time in 20 years when a goal by Paul Mariner brought them a 1-0 win over Hungary at Wembley. Northern Ireland also qualified by beating Israel 1-0 but Wales, who lost 3-0 to Russia in Tbilisi, will only qualify if the Russians beat Czechoslovakia later this month.

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Foot support plummets

Support for Mr Michael Foot is the lowest for any party leader since the war, according to the latest Gallup poll. The figures, published in today's Daily Telegraph, show that only one voter in six thinks he is doing a good job.

Curb on Trotskyists, page 2

'I govern a penal dustbin'

Mr J. S. McCarthy, the governor of Wormwood Scrubs prison, writes to *The Times* as 'the manager of a large penal dustbin' to say he cannot for much longer tolerate the incivility of the system in which he works.

Letters, page 13

Rail closures 'by stealth'

Britain is being condemned to a much smaller railway network, the rail consumers watchdog group said. Financial pressure from the Government leaves British Rail with only one option, closure of lines by stealth.

Page 4

Haddad besieges UN peace force

Major Saad Haddad's Israeli-backed Christian militia have laid siege to the headquarters of the United Nations peace force in southern Lebanon. About 1,150 civilians and troops are running out of water after the militia cut off their pipeline.

Page 3

Social change by decree in Paris

The French Cabinet is to implement its new social policy by decree, a measure allowed under the 1958 Constitution. This will avoid legislative delays and ensure that workers will benefit from the change to socialism.

Page 10

Fishermen fined over beach sales

Life for British fishermen who sell their catches from piers, jetties or from the beach, was made more difficult by Chichester magistrates' court when three fishermen were fined for contravening the Food Hygiene (Market, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

Page 7

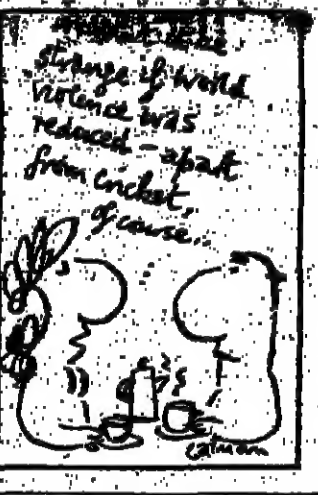
No to 8pc

In developments in the pay round, leaders of water and sewerage workers rejected 8 per cent. Shell tanker drivers agreed to 20 to 40c, and the biggest Civil Service union asked for union support for a £12 a week claim.

Page 2

Prisoners flee

A prison officer and a civilian driver were stabbed last night in Kensington, south London, when three men escaped from a prison van taking them from the Central Criminal Court to Brixton Prison.



Solidarity drive to save Labour

By Anthony Evans, Political Correspondent

Labour's Solidarity Campaign, led by Mr Roy Hattersley and Mr Peter Shore, has agreed to launch a concerted and nationwide counter-attack against the undemocratic left as part of a determined drive "to save the party."

A six-page document, to be formally released next week, says: "The crisis facing the party is clearly deepening."

"We have now to counter-attack and expose the whole political philosophy that lies behind the attempts to distort and undermine the traditions of democratic socialism within the Labour Party."

The campaign lays down "a number of immediate objectives which must be achieved if we are to save the party."

An initial deadline of 12 months has been set.

The objectives include a review of mandatory reselection, leadership elections, the composition of the party's national executive, and the procedures of annual party conference.

Foot to act, page 2

Heseltine stalls again on rates Bill

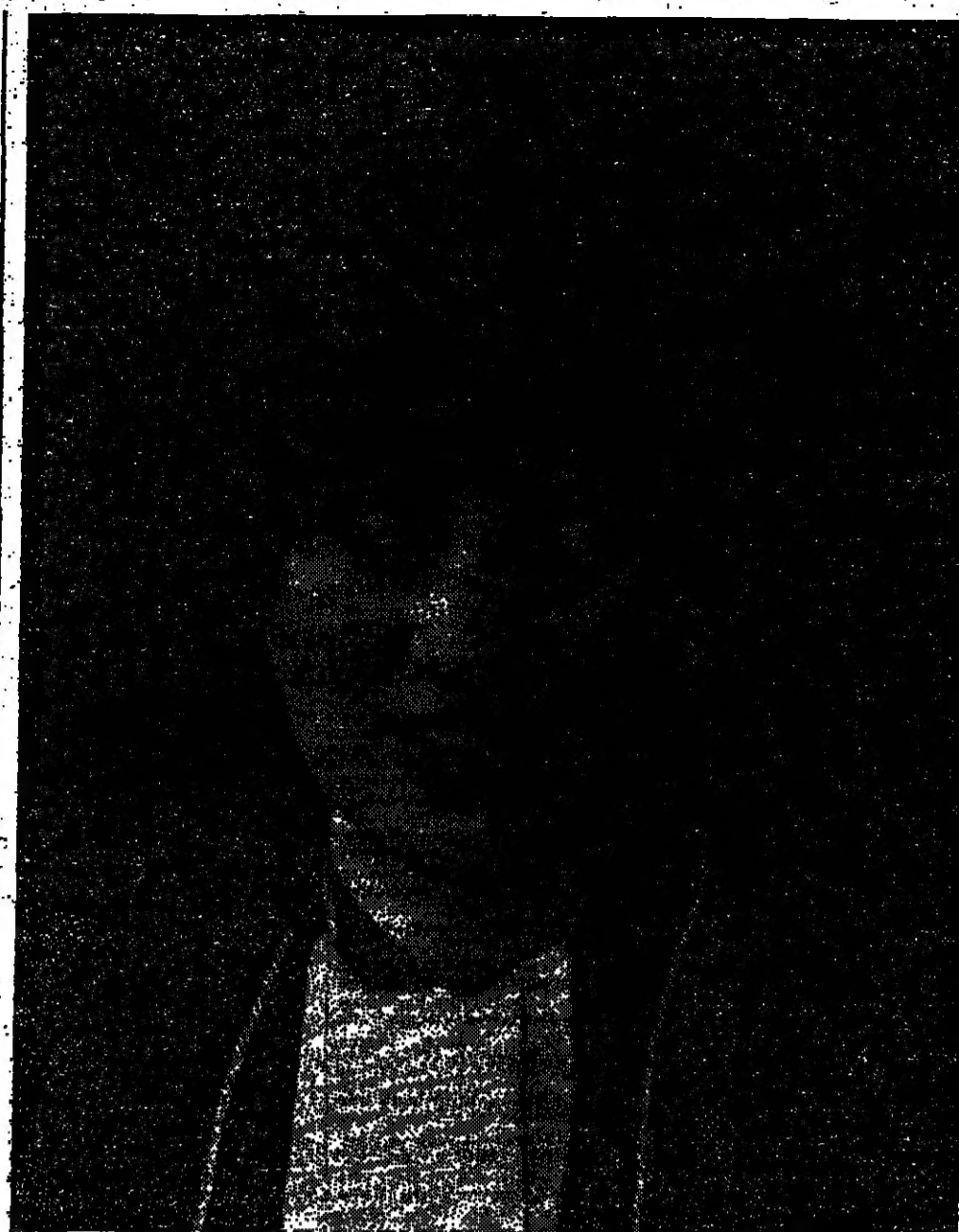
By Our Political Correspondent

The Cabinet has again decided to stall the second reading of its controversial Local Government Finance Bill, in the face of outright parliamentary opposition to the referendum clauses.

Senior ministerial sources said last night that revision of the Bill was still "on the table" and the Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Michael Heseltine, has been holding a marathon series of meetings with the Bill's critics.

The legislation, which received its first reading on November 6, will now pass into its third week without a second reading. Pressure is building up on Mr Heseltine to rescue the Government from the embarrassment of further delay.

But it was learned last night



The Princess of Wales, "feeling fine", arriving to switch on the Christmas lights in Regent Street last night. It was her first solo engagement. (Report, page 2).

Tax reform limited says Brittan

By David Johnson

A warning that further reform of the tax system is severely constrained by the Government's economic policy was sounded yesterday by Mr Leon Brittan, Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

In a speech to accountants and businessmen at Grosvenor House, London, Mr Brittan blamed the budgetary restraints of the recession for the Government's failure to carry through radical change in tax policy.

One of the Government's main objectives was to simplify the tax system, he said. An effective way of doing this was to take large numbers out of the income tax net, but this was an expensive process.

"Increasing the main personal income tax allowance to £2,000 for single people and £3,000 for a married man, for example, would cost over £5,000m. The present levels of personal allowances are £1,375 for a single person and £2,145 for a married man."

Mr Brittan appeared to indicate that a further change in personal taxation, the transferability of a married man's allowance to his wife, was also unlikely to be introduced because of its cost, estimated by a recent Green Paper at around £3,750m.

The Chief Secretary repeated the Government's objective that the tax system should actively encourage wealth creation and should move away from penalising savings and more indirect forms of taxation.

With these aims in mind, the Government was looking for reforms in several areas, he said. Computerization of pay-as-you-earn would reduce staffing costs and the widening of the PAYE system would allow the Government to allow consideration of "American-style" self-assessment.

A report on further reform of Schedule D, the main tax schedule for the self-employed, had recently been completed by Sir Derek Rayner, the Government's "efficiency expert."

Other reforms under consideration were company taxation and the local rating system.

This suggests the Government has decided to postpone a decision on the abolition of rates and introduction of some form of local income tax.

Mr Brittan said real progress had already been made to reduce the tax burden since the Government had come into office.

ensure that they were not allowed free reign on rates demands.

Favoured options for a fall-back include the election of one-third of councillors every year, a straight block on all supplementary rates, or the requirement for a resolution of both Houses of Parliament before a supplementary rate could be levied.

It is still possible that Mr Heseltine may be forced to drop the referendum altogether, in which case the use of the fall-back would have to replace it.

But there is increasing speculation among Conservative backbenchers that Mr Heseltine may be forced into the humiliation of dropping the Bill in its present form.

Output and pay show recovery has begun

By David Blake, Economics Editor

The Government was given a double boost for its economic hopes by new figures on output and earnings published yesterday.

The long-awaited recovery in output started in late summer, with national output rising 0.3 per cent after 18 months of steady decline. And average earnings over the year to September rose by only 0.4 per cent, the first time since January 1978 that the increase has been in single figures.

The pay estimates give too optimistic a view on the Government's success in bringing down wage increases, however, because they have been distorted by special factors. Officials say that the underlying increase in the year to September was probably about 1.2 per cent, the same as the previous month. But the figure will be a psychological boost to Government and employers at the start of the new wage round.

The long debate about just when the economy would bottom out seems to have ended with yesterday's figures giving a small rise in activity in the third quarter of the year. Industry did a lot better than in the spring, but trade in the

high streets slipped back to make the rise a small one for the economy overall.

The latest figures still leave the country producing 2.1 per cent less than it was in the third quarter of last year and 7 per cent less than its output in the spring of 1979. Most economists would say that the recession is not over until total output has grown back to levels prevailing before the recession started. So far, it shows no sign of doing that in the near future.

Most experts predict growth of between 1 per cent and 2 per cent next year, and most economic forecasts say that output will be less at the time of the next election than it was at the last one.

The Government will, however, take comfort that its claim that there are at least some signs of recovery has at last come true. They are likely to stress that prospects now depend on pay moderation making it possible for industry to become competitive again.

Treasury officials are so far encouraged by the start of the new pay round.

Ronald Butt, page 12
Tables, page 20

Solitary prisoner held three years in 'cage'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Robert J. Mawdsley has been in solitary confinement for three years in a half cage. A photograph (top page 2) shows him in a cell at Wakefield Prison with a wire door, which has caused new criticism of the way the Prison Department holds dangerous prisoners.

Mr Mawdsley says in a letter that he is mentally and physically being turned into an animal. Wakefield Prison was at the centre of earlier controversy over the use of a "control unit," later discontinued, to hold difficult and disruptive inmates.

The Prison Department cannot recall any reference being made to the introduction of wire doors in answer to a Parliamentary question or made public in an document. "But it is no state secret" an official said.

The photograph was obtained secretly by the National Prisoners' Organization (NPO), which says the cell is degrading and inhuman because it lacks privacy. The Prison Department however says that the wire door allows the prisoner to see what is going on outside. "In normal circumstances, if he wishes the door to be closed, it will be."

Mr Mawdsley has told Lord Avebury, who has taken up his case: "It is deplorable that a person can be kept in a cell measuring 6ft 6in by 12ft 6in for 23 hours each day, each week, month and year, and does not know how long he is going to be kept in solitary."

The difficulties the Prison Department has in containing violent people are recognized by critics who condemn the use of methods which they say increase frustration for apparently indefinite periods. Mr Mawdsley is one of three prisoners who have been in solitary confinement or segregation, as it is officially called, for a total of two and a half years or more.

Mr Mawdsley killed a man

Man dies in IRA ambush

Loyalists defiant over vigilantes

From Christopher Thomas, Belfast

The Provisional IRA's relentless campaign of murder continued yesterday as Protestant extremists prepared to launch a "third force" to mount vigilante patrols, seal off towns and hunt terrorists.

The "third force" threat came as a former Ulster Defence Regiment corporal was murdered and three other men wounded in separate gun attacks yesterday.

But Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, again said that there was no place for private armies.

"Government respects the right of citizens to disagree with it, but will use the full force of its authority against those who do not respect the rights of others."

But the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionists, remained defiant, saying it was "do or die" time.

He announced that his day of action would be ahead on Monday, despite the deployment in border areas of 500 more soldiers from the 1st Battalion, the Parachute Regiment, the standby spearhead battalion—and the cancellation of all police leave.

He was, he said, more window dressing and is urging a province-wide strike from noon to midnight on Monday and wants tractors and cars to converge on main towns.

The paramilitary Ulster Defence Association, whose support for the day of action could decide its success or failure, remained undecided last night whether to mobilize members behind the protest.

Mr James Molyneux, leader of the rival Official Unionists, suggested yesterday morning that Mr Paisley should delay his day of action for a fortnight until the Government's handling of the security situation could be assessed.

But he said later that not all protest action should be postponed. He insisted that plans were continuing within his party for the creation of an auxiliary force "which most people are also calling a 'third force', which would act responsibly to assist the security forces."

His remarks clearly upset many within his party, including Mr Harold McManis, MP for Armagh, who urged the continuation of Monday's protest. Mr John Taylor, an Official Unionist European MP, said he regretted the tone of Mr Molyneux's remarks. "No self-respecting Official Unionist could accept these short-term measures as a real change in security policy."

Mr Molyneux met Mr Prior last night, but emerged "unhappy and unsatisfied."

He said Mr Prior had reiterated the Government's position of the key issues of security, the constitution and the economy.

"We are not happy, neither are we reassured by the meeting."

The situation is becoming extremely complex as the main rival unionist parties clamour to be seen to do the most in the present atmosphere of tension and bitterness in the loyalist community.

Tighter security in Dublin

Security for government ministers and their families has been increased considerably in the Irish Republic (our Dublin Correspondent writes).

It is understood that children of ministers are being ferried to and from schools in State cars and property belonging to leading British figures is being guarded more closely.

Nothing could be achieved in Northern Ireland without an end to violence, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, told the Parliamentary press gallery in London (a staff reporter writes).

Echoing a word used by Mr Paisley, he said: "An ungovernable country is an undeveloped and unhealthy country, delivered into the hands of the unscrupulous."

He welcomed the decision to strengthen security forces there, but said that no one could claim that Britain had been negligent in fulfilling its security responsibilities.

Anglican bishops in Ulster tonight called on the Government to take urgent, realistic and effective steps to protect the law-abiding community (FA writes).

The Northern Bishops of the Church of Ireland said the events of the past few weeks had so heightened community tension that urgent Government action was needed.

This year's toll, page 7
Leading article, page 13



"The Monarch of the Glen," painted by Lord Avebury about 1830. The original has been in the care of Dewar's since 1946 for many years.

Dewar's
The Scotch Whisky
White Label
40% ALC/VOL (80 PROOF)
ESTD 1846

Dewar's
FIRST TO BOTTLE THE SPIRIT OF SCOTLAND

'Sick-and-tired' Foot may act against Trotskyists

By Julian Hayland, Political Editor

Mr Michael Foot, describing himself as a fully paid-up member of the "sick and tired brigade", yesterday begged the Labour Party to desert from self-destructive speeches and stop examining its entrails.

He vigorously defended the rights of the Shadow Cabinet, and denied the claim of Mr Wedgwood Benn that its members sought to change policies approved by the party conference.

At the end of a two-and-a-half hour special meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party at Westminster, in which speaker after speaker insisted that something be done to curb the Trotskyist militant tendency and other "entryist" groups, Mr Foot left several of his colleagues with the impression that he is ready to support limited action to prevent infiltration.

But it appeared last night that he would countenance no more than a political education campaign, perhaps led by the national executive committee, to alert constituency parties to Trotskyist tactics and encourage them to resist.

He told yesterday's meeting that he would not support expulsions from the party or proscriptions.

The meeting, called to discuss the party's strategy in the light of its repeated electoral setbacks, was held in a good spirit, according to Mr John Dornand (Essex), the chairman.

Others, however, said it was tense and dominated by the recent breach between Mr Benn and the rest of the Shadow Cabinet, led by Mr Foot.

There was criticism of Mr Benn for continuing the public arguments with this article in *The Guardian* yesterday entitled "Setting the record straight".

Mr Benn wrote the article to defend himself against Mr Foot's charge that he breached the normal rules of collective responsibility, by exceeding an agreed Shadow Cabinet brief in his Commons speech on North Sea oil last week.

But Mr Foot denied the accusation implicit in Mr Benn's article that the Shadow Cabinet claimed the right "to change conference policy and then to bind all its members to its own interpretation of that policy under the guise of upholding collective responsibility".

Mr Benn also wrote that there was "no discussion" whatsoever in the Shadow Cabinet when a draft statement of Labour policy on rationalising North Sea oil was agreed, or whether it was compatible with the party's strategy in the light of its repeated electoral setbacks.

Mr John Morris, shadow Attorney General and former Secretary of State for Wales, in a speech much quoted afterwards, said grudgingly that "short of a miracle Michael Foot and Denis Healey cannot win the next election". If anyone thought that with Mr Benn as

leader Labour could win the next election, he added, they were living in cloud-cuckoo land.

If in a year's time the party found itself in a worse position than now, Mr Morris said, both Mr Foot and Mr Healey would have to consider their positions.

But there was loud applause from the meeting when Mr Joe Ashton (Bessie) asserted that Mr Foot would be there at the next election.

Both Mr Morris and Mr Ashton strongly supported action against the tendency. Mr Morris said the NEC and the Shadow Cabinet could not ignore entryism.

Mr Ashton did not think the tendency could be proscribed, but said facts about their activities should be collected. He added that the Labour Party Young Socialists, Labour's youth wing, was so thoroughly infiltrated that they ought to be disbanded.

Mr Benjamin Ford (Bradford, North), who has been dropped by his local party in favour of a prominent member of the tendency, said that unless the NEC, to whom he is appealing, took action "a non-Trotskyist Labour Party would be formed in his constituency, a hint, his colleagues assumed, that he would be ready to stand against the official Labour candidate.

8% offer rejected by water workers

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Leaders of 32,000 water and sewerage workers yesterday rejected an improved 8 per cent pay offer, apparently to await the outcome of the miners' negotiations, and 2,000 Shell tanker drivers agreed to take their dispute over a similar pay offer to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

As the new pay round gathers momentum, the executive of the biggest Civil Service union, the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA), called on other unions in the service to join them in submitting a £12-a-week pay claim.

The National Water Council raised its initial 6.7 per cent offer to just over 8 per cent in four hours of negotiations yesterday, but there was a feeling on both sides that the outcome of next week's pay talks with the miners would help to clarify what is likely to be the going rate for powerful public sector unions.

The new water offer would add between £5.80 and £6.40 a week to the basic rate and would also improve shift rates and give extra holidays. Unions unanimously rejected the offer.

Mr Edmund Newall, national industrial officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and the chief union negotiator, said the unions had to consider what was happening in other public sector negotiations. "We have to take account of what is happening in mining and pressure on the talks had been building up before today, we might have had a better improved offer."

Further talks are to be held on December 8, when Mr Newall said he hoped an agreement could be reached.

In the tanker drivers' dispute, Shell shop stewards yesterday reported that the company's 2,000 distribution workers had rejected the 8 per cent offer by a margin of more than two to one.

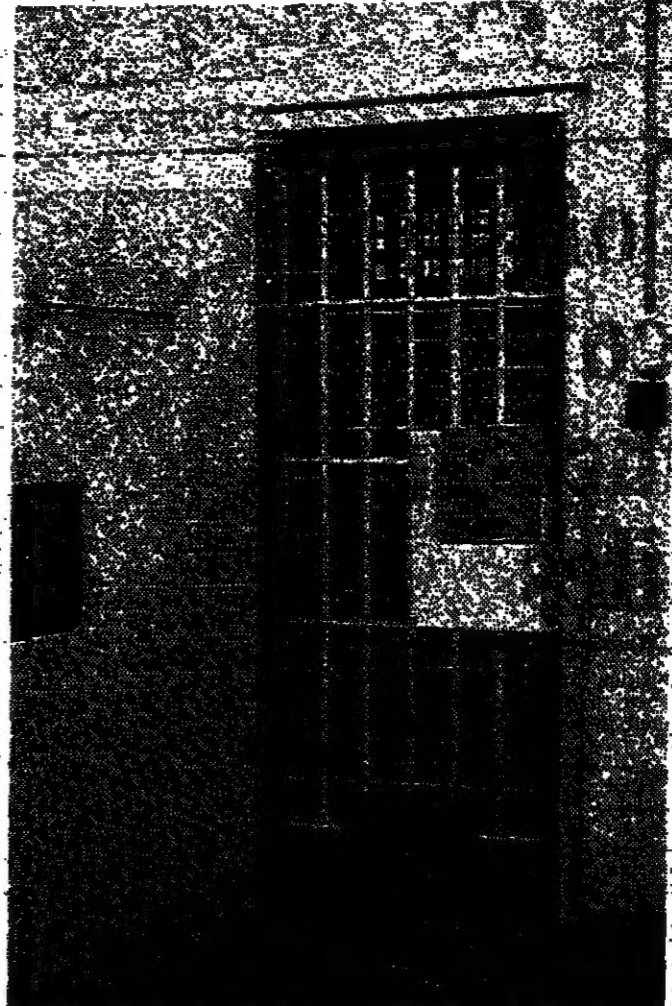
Transport and General Workers' Union negotiators later met the company, but after Shell refused to improve its offer the two sides officially decided to go to ACAS on Saturday.

Esso and Texaco shop stewards, where the workers have already rejected similar 8 per cent offers, are due to meet today and tomorrow and it is possible that they may follow a similar course, though discussions would have to be conducted separately. BP workers have accepted by a two to one majority the 8 per cent offer.

At the Civil Service pay arena, union leaders are to meet on Tuesday to see if they can agree on a common claim to submit to the Government for next year's pay settlement; but the CPSA decision yesterday is unlikely to find favour with some of the eight other unions, who may want to press for a percentage claim.

The Institution of Professional Civil Servants earlier this week agreed to the principle of a common claim for the nine unions but apparently did not discuss the size of the claim. The Society of Civil and Public Servants meets today to consider its position.

Leaders of Britain's 30,000 Maritime Navy officers and seamen are to recommend acceptance of a 7.7 per cent



The vice-decorated cell at Wakefield Prison of Robert J. Mawdsley, who has complained that it is turning him into an animal.

TUC backs appeal on TV blacking case

By Oge Labour Correspondent

The TUC is expected to support an appeal to the House of Lords against an injunction under the Employment Act, 1980, which halted the blacking by technicians of a television series which was made by an independent company.

The TUC's employment policy and organisation committee yesterday agreed to recommend financial support for the appeal by technicians of a television series which was made by an independent company.

The committee approved a paper proposing a national committee of union leaders early in the new year and saying that union leaders would meet at a

The TUC has supported a union under the 1980 Act. The TUC's rule 8 permits it to give financial support only in cases which go to the House of Lords.

The move came as the committee endorsed plans for a campaign directed at both employers and the public to oppose proposals to amend the law which would restrict the right to picket.

The committee approved a paper proposing a national committee of union leaders early in the new year and saying that union leaders would meet at a

Granada film crew fears a surfeit of curry

By Kenneth Gossling

A dietary dispute is cooking over curry for a Granada Television film crew now going on location to India for several months.

The technicians are reluctant to go without taking their own food, but alternatively, they want the local caterers to be made temporary members of their union, the National Association of Theatrical, Television and Kine Employees.

Filming of a new drama series, *The Jewel in the Crown*, based on Paul Scott's "Raj Quartet", starts in January. Granada was anxious last night to play down the problem, which centres on a certain anxiety by the technicians that all they will have to eat is curry.

"That's not so", the company said. "The caterers we employ are well used to providing an international cuisine all over the world."

"It is all pretty low key, a request rather than a demand by the union, and we have after all been to India before, to film our first Paul Scott play, *Stop on a Summer Day*, and there was no trouble."

Granada's policy has been to subcontract location catering, using hotels or "butterie wagons", vehicles that join the production team. In this instance it wants to use a catering company that works on the feature film, *Gandhi*, the company knows India, where to buy food and what health precautions to take in hot countries.

The union members are not convinced. They want one of their Manchester members to go along and cook for them. Talks are to be held in Manchester next week.

Princess sets off into the limelight

By Alan Hamilton

The Princess of Wales was seen gently into her public career last night when she performed her first solo official engagement, switching on the Regent Street Christmas lights in London.

The Princess, who has had to cancel a number of engagements because of her pregnancy, looked well, told well-wishers she felt fine, and walked through her task with evident assurance and ease.

Dressed in a midnight blue velvet suit with peach trimmings and her favoured Cinderella silver shoes, and sheltered by an umbrella against driving rain, the Princess appeared briefly on a second-floor balcony above a thousand-strong crowd, throwing the pavement below.

Her speech was brief. She was, she said, "delighted to have this opportunity of making a small contribution to the Christmas spirit in London."

She then retired to a crowded reception to meet traders and celebrities. The heat and press of bodies was so intense that she left well before her allotted hour.

Regent Street has new lights this year, erected at a cost of £70,000 and comprising 77 real Christmas trees and 7,000 bulbs. Last year's decorations, which served for two seasons, have been sold to Bournemouth Corporation.

GRAFFITI SQUADS PROPOSED

By Lucy Hodges

Anti-graffiti squads, whose sole purpose would be to remove racist slogans, were proposed yesterday by the Commission for Racial Equality, which said that such squads should be established by British Rail, the Greater London Council, London Transport and the London boroughs.

That recommendation is one of a number in the commission's evidence to the GLC inquiry into racial harassment published yesterday.

Others are that the police should seriously consider setting up special "anti-racist" units, an idea rejected by the Home Secretary this week, and that thought should be given to the creation of a new criminal offence of racial harassment.

Reith lecturer attacks idea of 'limited' nuclear war

By Henry Stalhope, Defence Correspondent

The idea that a limited nuclear war could be fought, producing between 300,000 and 800,000 deaths, is "dreadfully dangerous", Professor Laurence Martin, Vice-Chancellor of Newcastle University, said last night. It was a warning, he said, which, if ever used, would indicate that the world was in a desperate plight.

Unless a single demonstrative weapon was fired, as was envisaged two weeks ago by Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, it would be unforfeitable to pretend that such a war could be truly limited.

Professor Martin, who was delivering the second Reith Lecture on BBC Radio 4, said that an attack on the Russian Baku oilfields in the Caucasus would risk killing an estimated 200,000 people and injuring 750,000 more. A Soviet "limited" attack on the

Science report Pesticides still cause loss of animals

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

In spite of voluntary controls introduced 10 years ago to restrict the use of persistent pesticides that are a hazard to wildlife and to the human food chain, these substances are still affecting animal populations.

The damage done to various species is reported in papers published by the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology. One extensive investigation concerns the cause of death among sparrows between 1963 and 1979. The sparrowhawk is under full legal protection.

The carcasses of 341 birds were examined at the Monk's Wood, experimental station, near Huntingdon, to monitor the levels of the longest lasting of the hazardous agricultural chemicals.

Those substances include DDE, a derivative of the insecticide DDT, the PCBs from the industrial polychlorinated biphenyls, and BHC, which comes from the insecticide aldrin and dieldrin.

There were very large variations in the amount of pesticides found in the birds. The number of carcasses sent for tests increased steadily from 1963; but that rise is attributed to the overall increase in the sparrowhawk population and the recolonisation of areas from which birds had been eliminated by poisoning in previous years.

The sample contained more pesticides than those found in the carcasses of females, which spend less time in woodlands, and more time around farmland and villages than the males do. Thus they are more likely to die in places where they are found by bird-watchers.

The study forms part of a much wider programme of research on pesticide levels in wildlife. The results are expected to be published in the *Journal of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds*.

The birds brought for analysis were more likely to have been dead than those which died in the field, or occurring near human habitation. Even though the species is protected, at least 57 of the birds had been shot. The results are in the *Journal of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds* (51).

Toshiba's 'no-strikes' deal A quiet revolution gives hope of industrial peace

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The quiet revolution being enacted at Toshiba's television sets factory at Plymouth might not be happening if the company were not Japanese and the union involved one as prepared as the electricians to fly in the face of industrial orthodoxy.

The deal struck for the plant's 300 employees in the spring does not in fact contain a written union commitment "never to strike". It remains, nevertheless, a remarkable agreement designed to eliminate industrial disputes and has not as yet a parallel in any other large sector of industry.

The fact that there is no distinction between staff and manual workers in canteen provision, clothing, working conditions, pensions, sick pay and car parking is common in Japanese factories.

The agreement nevertheless embodies two other features which help to make it unusual even for a Japanese factory in Britain. These are:

Provision for an 11-man advisory board, including the senior shop steward and managing director ex officio, but otherwise made up of elected delegates, to discuss wages and conditions; and Provision for a "no-strike" arbitration, in disputes under which an independent arbitrator would not seek to find a compromise between the two sides, but make a binding decision in favour of one side or the other.

The clause, which comes strikes says: "...this approach provides for the resolution of

conflicts of interests between the company and its employees through consultation, negotiation and arbitration rather than through the traditional process of industrial action.

If the two sides do move outside the advisory board and put a claim and counter-offer, then the pendulum system is a powerful incentive to frame the most reasonable or what one of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union described yesterday as the most "attractive" claim instead of the most extreme.

Mr Roy Sanderson, the union national officer who helped to draw up the deal, said yesterday that approaches to British firms on similar lines had been rejected.

"A lot of British management is still locked in the last century," Mr Sanderson said. "The fact that 85 per cent of all manufacturing companies in Britain have got separate lavatories, canteens and car parks."

The CBI and some union leaders yesterday welcomed moves towards single status, but were aware of more strikes, "right at the end of the line" should be welcomed.

It remains to be seen whether "flip-flop" arbitration will catch on. The real test at Toshiba will come next year when the advisory board start discussing pay and conditions for a settlement in March.

BL strikers to hear offer today

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Two days of talks between the BL management and unions about the 11-day-old "tea break" strike at the company's Longbridge plant in Birmingham ended last night with a small concession by the company.

It still maintains that the one hour reduction to a 39-hour week must be funded by a 12-minute cut in daily relaxation time, but it is prepared to phase this out over a month.

Shop steward members of the works committee agreed to put the company's new offer to a mass meeting of the 2,200 strikers today. They will not recommend it as the basis for a return to work, although the company has agreed that for the first week after a return the present 52-minute allowance will continue.

There would then be a reduction of 1 per cent a week to achieve the full cut of 3 per cent from the present 12 per cent of working time to 9 per cent. That would bring BL into line with Ford.

Last night neither side was optimistic about today's meeting. The Japanese Nissan motor company, which is studying the possibility of producing cars in the United Kingdom, allows its workers to take a one-hour lunch break and two 10-minute tea breaks every day and "will certainly not tolerate a 51-minute break" in its plants, a senior executive said yesterday (Peter Hazlehurst reports from Tokyo).

Toyota, Japan's largest car producer, also provides its workers with two 10-minute tea breaks a day.

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Addtracted?

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Some solid fuel users at risk

By Robin Young, Consumer Affairs Correspondent

More than half the users of solid fuel stoves ignore safety precautions and could be at risk from poisonous fumes, according to research commissioned by the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council.

In a report published yesterday it is claimed that one tenth of the people with room heaters did not realize they had a flue. Even more told the researchers that their flue pipes were never cleaned.

Although the law requires fireguards to protect young children in houses with open fires, one fifth of the open fires used by families with young children had no fire-guard available.

The consumers' council recommends that chimneys should be swept at least once a year, and flue pipes on solid fuel appliances once a month. Safety and Solid Fuel (Social and Community Planning Research, 35 Northampton Square, London, EC1, OAX, £4.50).

Pickets banned by judge

From Our Correspondent, Manchester

A High Court judge ruled yesterday that six pickets stay away from the Doncaster works where they were part of a 70-strong picket on Monday.

The men, former employees of Laurence Scott and Electromotors Ltd, of Openshaw, Manchester, were among flying pickets outside the premises of the firm's parent company in Raby, Doncaster.

DRIVE FOR MORE GLASS BANKS

By Tony Samstag

A campaign aimed at doubling the number of bottle banks in use in Britain opened yesterday when Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, launched Glass Recycling Year '82.

The Glass Manufacturers' Federation hopes to have nearly 1,500 bottle banks in use by 1984, to collect 250,000 tonnes of glass can be recycled a year. A £750,000 recycling plant is due to open in Harlow, Essex, next year.

Speaking at the Hilton International Hotel, London, Mr Heseltine described the 1984 target as tough but realistic.

He was particularly encouraged by the Greater London Council decision to alter the basis of payments to borough councils so that subsidies to bottle banks which made a loss were to be replaced by a flat payment per tonne for glass diverted from GLC disposal routes.

This is psychologically as well as financially, says Mr Heseltine said. "We tell you can have a subsidy only if you make a loss has the same effect on a borough council as on any other body."

He thought financing for recycling ought to be possible in most cases without using public money.

Today a Bill that would ban most non-returnable drinks containers is scheduled for second reading in the House of Lords.

Overseas setting prices
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Students scramble for places at university

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Applications from home students for university entry next autumn are up by 7 per cent, a much larger increase than expected. Yet most universities will cut intake sharply next year, in line with University Grants Committee guidance.

Overseas applications, for undergraduate courses, were down by 17 per cent by November 1 compared with the same time last year, and about 60 per cent less than in 1979, the last year before the introduction of the so-called full-cost fees for overseas students.

About a third of applications are normally in by now, but some home students may be applying earlier than usual in the unfounded hope that they may improve their chance of getting a place.

Figures released yesterday by the Universities Central Council on Admissions show a substantial increase in applications for biology, one of the subjects singled out by the UGC for above-average cuts.

Other subjects in which there has been a substantial increase in applications include medicine, dentistry, mathematics, physics, geology, geography, accountancy, psychology, com-

binated social studies, English and history.

No subject has so far experienced a substantial decrease in applications.

Half of this year's entrants to Cambridge University got three A grade A levels, compared with 36 per cent of Oxford entrants and less than 10 per cent of all university entrants last year.

Figures released yesterday by Cambridge show that 83 per cent of its entrants obtained at least two grade Bs and an A, compared with 75 per cent of Oxford entrants and 26 per cent of all university entrants last year.

Nearly half of the Cambridge entrants came from former direct-grant or independent schools, which account for only about 7 per cent of all pupils. Such pupils made up a similar proportion of the successful Oxford applicants.

Like Oxford, Cambridge has tried to increase the number of maintained school applicants by introducing special entrance schemes such as the conditional offer scheme, under which candidates are accepted on the basis of A level grades alone,

without having to sit the entrance examination; 15 per cent of this year's Cambridge entrants came through that scheme.

The proportion of places offered by Cambridge to applicants before they sit their A levels has also increased. This year nearly 43 per cent of successful applicants were of that kind, compared with about 28 per cent 10 years ago.

That method of entry is again particularly intended to help maintained schools, most of which are unable to provide special Oxbridge entry tuition in the third year of the sixth form.

Women now account for 31 per cent of successful Cambridge applicants, compared with 13 per cent 10 years ago. Four of the men's colleges are still single-sex. At Oxford, where all but one of the men's colleges now accept women, 39 per cent of this year's intake were women.

Two in five of the 7,567 applicants to Cambridge this year were accepted, 10 per cent winning scholarships and a further 16 per cent being awarded exhibitions.

Motorists may feel Bulldog's bite

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

Illegal parking in London has become so widespread that the Government may bow to police demands to be allowed to use wheel clamps to immobilise offending vehicles.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, announced yesterday that he was seeking the views of the public and interested organisations before deciding whether to introduce legislation. If he does, clamps will be used experimentally in the most congested areas of central London.

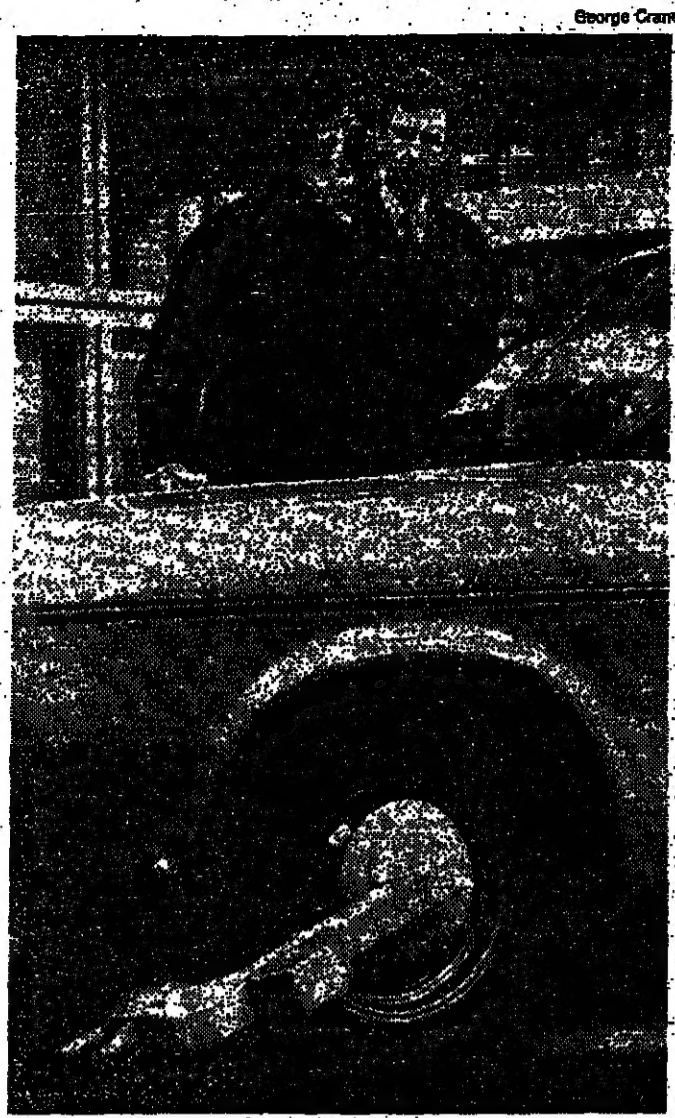
The police argue that they would be a strong deterrent to illegal parking and make enforcement of the law more effective.

Mr Howell said: "There are people who are prepared to park anywhere and who accumulate parking tickets by the score without paying them. The case for clamps has to be considered very seriously. Mr Robert Barker, Deputy Assistant Commissioner (Traffic) of the Metropolitan Police, said the wheel clamp would be more effective than a parking ticket."

A type of clamp favoured by the police was demonstrated to Mr Howell yesterday. It is a French design, called the "Bulldog", and is applied to the rim of the wheel, has a hub cover and a locking device and can be fitted in less than two minutes.

A motorist returning to his car would find a large notice on the windscreen telling him that a clamp had been fitted. He would have to go to a police station or car pound and pay a fee, probably about £25, to have the clamp unlocked. The clamps cost £200 and the police would at first have 350. Vehicles causing serious obstruction would still have to be towed away or removed to a place where they could be immobilised.

The Greater London Council has estimated that 350,000 vehicles are parked illegally in London every day and according to a recent survey the chances of being caught can be as low as one in twenty. The main reason for that is the shortage of traffic wardens. There are only 1,300 wardens in the Metropolitan Police area, compared with an establishment of 1,800, and despite high un-



Mr David Howell seeing the Bulldog breed of wheel clamp in action yesterday.

employment very few recruits are coming forward. The police have said they would need 4,000 wardens to do the job properly.

Clamps are used in Paris and several American cities. So far in Britain they have been used only off the public roads: users have included the British Airports Authority at Heathrow, the new Covent Garden Market and some hospitals. This week clamps were introduced by the development corporation at Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, to dissuade motorists

Names of Allied spies 'were given to Russia'

By Peter Hennessy

British and United States intelligence traded secret information, including the names and location of western agents in eastern Europe with the Soviet Union on a substantial scale for a large part of the second World War, according to Mr Bradley-Smith, an American historian, whose article, *Official Treason* is published today by the magazine *Time*.

Mr Smith claims that secret documents he has uncovered by using the United States Freedom of Information Act show that the British and the wartime activities of Mr Leo Long, who admitted publicly his month to spying for Russia while working for British military intelligence, and Mr Oswald Carey, a former member of the British sabotage and subversion agency, the Special Operations Executive, were convinced under the Official Secrets Act of 1964.

The passing of highly classified information to the Russian NKVD (the precursor of the KGB) on a reciprocal basis by the United States Office of Strategic Services (forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency) and SOE received the official approval of the British and American governments, Mr Smith says.

He believes the extent of that cooperation has been suppressed for fear of undermining the credibility of cold war propaganda directed against their former ally by the United States and Britain since 1945.

Among important materials supplied to the NKVD by OSS and SOE, Mr Smith lists highly secret estimates of conditions in Germany prepared for Presi-

dent Roosevelt and the chiefs of staff in Washington.

The OSS also furnished the Russians with the names and rank of every American agent, and some British operating in areas of central and south-eastern Europe that were occupied by the Red Army from late 1944 onwards.

As early as 1941 an NKVD liaison office was opened in London, headed by Colonel I. Chichayev. A similar SOE establishment was set up in Moscow. Only the impassioned intervention of Mr J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, expressed in a letter to Mr Chichayev, prevented an NKVD centre being set up in Washington.

Mr Hoover wrote on February 10, 1943: "I wanted to bring this situation to your attention as once because I think it is highly dangerous and most undesirable procedure to establish in the United States a unit of the Russian Secret Service, which has admittedly for its purpose the penetration into the official secrets of various government agencies."

Despite Mr Hoover's success in keeping the NKVD team out of Washington, the OSS used Colonel Chichayev's office in London for the purpose of swapping intelligence. High level exchanges, Mr Smith says, began in the spring of 1944 and continued until the end of hostilities.

Mr Smith's researches are to be published in a book entitled *OSS and American Shadow Warfare*.

Magazine boycott over Begin article urged

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

An association of Jewish doctors is organizing a nationwide boycott of a fortnightly medical magazine because of an article in it attacking Dr Menachem Begin and his part in destroying an Arab village in 1948 in the fight to establish Israel.

The article, published in *World Medicine* in October, was addressed to all doctors going to the Medical Olympics in Israel and suggested that when they were taken round the country they should remember how it was set up.

It said that Mr Begin, now the Israeli Prime Minister, led an attack on a peaceful Arab village called Deir Yassin, killing 254 men, women and children in one morning. The attack played a major part in establishing Israel because it persuaded many Arabs to leave their villages before the British mandate ended, it said.

Mr Karl Sabbagh, the writer, a regular columnist in the magazine and who has lived in Palestine until 1948, said it was still relevant because it meant no one could believe Mr Begin's declared commitment to a peaceful solution in the Middle East.

The article was written in strong terms. Mr Sabbagh

described Mr Begin's attitude on his arrival in what was then Palestine thus: "Young (well, late thirties, really) and impetuous (well, a cold-blooded killer, actually) Begin and the other terrorists (sorry, 'freedom-fighters') saw no alternative to violence against the Arabs whose land they coveted."

The Israel Medical Association, based in London, has written to its members suggesting that all future copies of the magazine, which is distributed free to nearly all GPs and many hospital doctors, should be returned unopened. It suggests that protest letters should be sent until assurances are given that the magazine will never again publish "blatant Palestine Liberation Organization propaganda".

The association has also written to drug companies and other advertisers in the magazine suggesting that they withdraw their advertising until such an assurance is given.

Dr Lionel Balfour-Lynn, association secretary, said yesterday: "People are very angry about it. We have been inundated with complaints. It is not an article you would expect to find in a medical magazine. One would expect to see it in a PLO magazine in Beirut."

Police quiz two over explosives

By Lucy Hodges

Two men were being questioned by police in North Wales yesterday in connection with the theft of 200 sticks of gelignite from a mine in the village of Corris last Saturday.

The police said that the men, from London, who were arrested on Tuesday after a routine check at the M6 service area at Corley, Warwickshire, might also be associated with explosives found yesterday in a green Austin Morris van in Claribel Road, Brixton, London.

Explosives were allegedly found in the van they were driving.

Yesterday the police evacuated Claribel Road and towed away the green van.

The police spokesman in Colwyn Bay said he had no idea whether there was an Irish connexion to the theft, but it was clear that the van discovery was not connected with the Metropolitan Police search for gelignite in garages.

Mr Royston Edwards, aged 17, who was told to leave his house in Brixton while police searched the van, said he had spotted the vehicle yesterday morning. "I do not know who he belongs to or if he is a one get in or out of it," he said.

Man cut up while alive, jury is told

A man was still alive when his killers began dismembering his body, a jury was told yesterday.

Mr Donald Ryan, aged 49, was lured to a maisonette in Camberwell, south London, and his body cut up with a hand saw, an electric carving-knife and a machete, Mr Evan Stone, QC, for the prosecution, said at the Central Criminal Court.

Opening the trial of four people who deny murdering Mr Ryan, on November 8 last year, Mr Stone warned the jury of six men and six women that they must steel themselves to see photographs in a horrifying case.

"You will hear evidence that, having cut up the body into a large number of pieces, the head was placed in a freezer until later that night, when parts of the body were scattered in the streets and in dustbins."

The maisonette, in Colby Park, Camberwell, was occupied by the defendants, Shirley Brindle, aged 35, and Michael Ward, aged 28, a gravedigger, who were living together.

Much of their time was spent drinking with the other two defendants, David Begley, aged 41, a porter, of Winchmore Court, Walford, and John Bowden, aged 27, a labourer, of Telford Place, Peckham.

From time to time, he said, they used violence on one another, similarly addicted to drink in order to rob them.

An earlier incident involved a man named Robert Egan, but he survived after treatment for deep cuts.

The trial continues today.

£10m hostels scheme to aid the single homeless

By Frances Gibb

A £10m package to provide nearly 1,500 hostel beds over the next five years for single homeless people in London has been drawn up by the departments of the Environment and Health and Social Security.

The package was put forward by Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing, and Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under-Secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, at a private meeting yesterday with representatives from the London Boroughs Association and the Greater London Council housing committee.

It is expected to be announced officially tomorrow in answer to a parliamentary question.

The package, to be implemented by the housing associations and funded by the Housing Corporation, provides for 785 bed spaces with OoE cash and 200 with DHSS cash over the next five years.

The scheme is aimed at solving two key problems in the capital: the closure in 1985 of

the Resettlement Unit at Camberwell, south London, where some 350 single men still await rehousing in a hostel, and the running down of some of London's major hostels. These could mean the loss of 3,000 bed spaces.

DHSS money is being made available to the Housing Corporation for the first time because the department finances the Camberwell unit and the Housing Corporation's DoF funds cannot be allocated specifically to rehousing the homeless from that unit.

The 785 places will be for the most needy and it is likely that some people at Camberwell will fall into that category. A new scheme for improving older private houses has been developed by the GLC within the housing action area of Tower Hamlets.

Mrs Gladys Dimson, chairman of the council's housing committee, will open today a showhouse which is the first result of the scheme.

Three points put to jury

The judge in the murder trial of Paul Vickers, the surgeon, and Pamela Collison, his former mistress, said yesterday that the main issue was whether the surgeon intended to kill or cure his wife with the anti-cancer drug CCNU.

Mr Justice Boreham was continuing his summing-up at Teesside Crown Court, where Mr Vickers and Miss Collison have denied murdering Mrs Margaret Vickers.

He told the jury: "It is the law of this land that if two people do embark on a joint criminal exercise, each of these

parties is liable for the acts done by the other in carrying out that agreement."

The Crown had to prove three things. The first was that Vickers had caused his wife to take CCNU. "There is no doubt about that," he said.

The second was that in giving the CCNU the surgeon had intended to kill his wife, and there, motive would be a very important consideration.

The third was that the CCNU was a cause of her death. "You may think it was the cause," the judge said.

The trial continues today.

Welfare groups urged to back councils

From Pat Healy, Birmingham

Voluntary organizations were urged yesterday to join the fight against the local government Bill in order to defend the rights of the most vulnerable people in Britain.

Mr David Blunkett, leader of Sheffield City Council, made the point during a session on voluntary organizations and council services when the annual local authority social services conference began in Birmingham.

Mr Blunkett told the conference that the most vulnerable, frail and dependent people would be the victims of any substantial cut in expenditure or threat to existing local authority resources. That was because social services took a large slice of councils' budgets.

To call on a London borough like Tower Hamlets, with its almost insuperable

problems, to slash its expenditure by upwards of 40 per cent can only be described as the most outrageous and irresponsible political action to have been inflicted on the most needy and dependent in our community in modern times," he said.

The new legislation was intended to perpetrate similar proposals in inner city areas throughout England and Wales, Mr Blunkett told the conference. Every individual and organization working with people in need of social service support must fight to defend their rights.

Every voluntary organization in the country should therefore be taking up the cudgel to defend the rights, not of local government but of the people they exist to serve.

Professor Roger Hadley, of

Lancaster University, told the conference that governments had been eroding council powers for more than 100 years. But short of nuclear war there would be increasing demand for social services because of the rising numbers of elderly people, growing unemployment and the instability of family life.

That, he said, made it worthwhile to consider introducing more locally based social services on the lines of experimental schemes being tried with some success in many areas. But he gave a warning that the opportunity might be lost if councils did not act now, because if the economy did not grow there would be insufficient funds to meet rising demands, and services would have to be cut back or withdrawn.

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Rail closures 'by stealth' are forecast

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

Britain is being condemned to a much smaller railway system because of government policy towards British Rail, the rail consumer watchdog body said yesterday.

Financial pressure on British Rail is so great that its only option is closure by stealth, and the possible loss of 3,000 route miles is worrying people in Scotland and Wales, Mrs Alison Munro, chairman of the Central Transport Consultative Committee, said.

She added that London commuters were condemned to deteriorating, cattle-truck conditions with trains becoming more crowded, less frequent and dirtier, and stations crumbling.

Mrs Munro is to seek a meeting with Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport. After meeting his officials she said the Government's attitude to the railways had changed markedly in recent months. Early this year the electrification programme was rejected and then Mr Howell took a harder line on finance than his predecessor, Mr Norman Fowler, had done.

Mr Howell had not endorsed Mr Fowler's pledge on closures, and had refused to save the Kilmacolm line in Scotland after the Strathclyde passenger transport authority withdrew support.

The department's view seemed to be that British Rail

could be kept going satisfactorily on savings from improved productivity, Mrs Munro said at a press briefing in London. But it had grossly overestimated the potential of those savings and the policy would fail. Denied more government money and pressed to keep down real fares, British Rail had no choice but a policy of "rather rapid shrinkage" of the network over the whole country.

It was a policy of closure by stealth and British Rail was also being forced to convert routes into single-track operation, with devastating effects on passengers. That policy would condemn Britain to a railway playing a much smaller part in the transport system at a time when energy forecasts suggested that it should play a larger part. It was encouraging competition from the private car because fewer people would find the railway accessible.

British Rail was itself partly to blame for keeping so satisfactorily within its cash limits up till last year. "The railways' tragedy is that their crisis has never gone deep enough. They have never sunk to the British Steel level." Under a policy of gradual closure Inter City and South-east commuter services would survive but many other services would not. It was a crisis of mediocrity.

Fight for Filipinos facing expulsion

By David Walker

A group of MPs is asking the Home Office to postpone the forcible removal from Britain tomorrow of Filipino hotel workers accused of entering the country under false pretences.

The MPs, of all parties, want the cases of some 20 Filipinos who face removal within the next fortnight to be reconsidered and amnesties granted.

An appeal on their behalf to the Prime Minister is being made by Mr David Bassett, general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union.

Mr Bassett yesterday told MPs sponsored by his union that the Filipinos were "a hard-working and satisfactory group".

"There is sufficient confusion (surrounding their entry to Britain) for the Government not to persist with the action it is taking".

The Filipinos are among some 400 hospital and catering workers admitted to Britain in the middle and later 1970s. They have since been declared illegal entrants under the Immigration Act, 1971.

About a hundred Filipinos have been deported since last March for failing to declare that they had children before they entered Britain.

Mr Bassett said some documents might have been falsified but a union analysis of the cases blamed employment agencies in the Philippines.



Cleaning up a mystery: An employee of Christie's with the seventeenth-century suit of armour they sold anonymously to an unknown collector for £418,000.

Mystery armour fetches £418,000

The most magnificent suit of armour to come up at public auction in Europe or the United States for more than half a century was sold at Christie's in London yesterday for the record price of £418,000. (Christopher Warman writes.)

It was bought by Mr Howard Ricketts, a London dealer, on behalf of a syndicate from abroad. He declined to give further

details of its destination, but it is understood that it is destined for a private collector in the United States.

The armour was made in the Royal Armoury of Greenwich about 1610 by William Pickering. It was ordered by Henry, Prince of Wales, for Frederick Ulrich, Duke of Brunswick, a kinsman, and dispatched to Brunswick in 1613.

Christie's were instructed to sell the piece anonymously and it is therefore described as the property of a noble family. Befitting the mystery, the suit arrived in two subcases in London from "somewhere in Europe" a few weeks ago.

Mr Ricketts was not surprised at the high price and said he had been prepared to go higher.

Sale Room report, page 14

Poll rivals united on Ulster

From John Chartres, Liverpool

The shadow of the latest events in Northern Ireland fell across the Crosby by-election campaign yesterday, with unanimous condemnation of IRA terrorism from the three main candidates.

The Ulster issue will probably not win or lose many votes on November 26, but nevertheless there are especially close links between Merseyside and the unhappy country from which so many of its students originated.

Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP/Liberal Alliance candidate, spoke on the subject first, with warm and generous tribute to the personal dignity of Mr James Prior in going to the Rev Robert Bradford's funeral in an extremely difficult situation.

Clearly, waiting to leave party politics aside, she paid tribute both to Mrs Margaret Thatcher and to Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister for attempting to find a way out of the "dead-end" situation. She thought the Government's policy was right in attempting to discuss the main issues between Belfast, London and Dublin.

Mr John Backhouse, the Labour candidate, did not feel qualified to add a personal tribute to a Conservative minister.

But he had earlier said that while he was in favour of a united Ireland as the only permanent solution, he was not in favour of withdrawal of British troops and thought the Protestant population of Northern Ireland remained entitled to the right to veto unification.

Mr Backhouse, who has shown that he thinks issues out for himself and does not just tag on to party lines, agreed yesterday that the IRA were terrorists and that members of the organisation who committed murders were criminals and should be treated as murderers.

It was another point for Mr Backhouse, who may well win rather more votes than was predicted during the early stages of the campaign.

Mr John Betcher, the Conservative, had little difficulty in answering questions about Northern Ireland. He expanded on an earlier declaration that he saw nothing wrong in the media being used or even manipulated to put propaganda into Northern Ireland in the cause of peace.

He said he could see nothing wrong in the two live television channels being used to demonstrate to all the people of the province that they were not future IRA backings.

For the rest it was a relatively quiet day in Crosby.

Mrs Williams was questioned closely on the leadership of both the SDP and the Alliance, but as usual deflected the questions, saying that the present collective leadership was working well and that no decisions could be taken until after the SDP's constitutional conference.

Mrs Williams under fire

Youngsters at a fee-paying school had a showdown with Mrs Williams on Tuesday night over her view on private education.

Appearing in a debate at Crosby's £1,300-a-year Merchant Taylors' girls' school, Mrs Williams was questioned by a sixth former over her record as Labour's Education Secretary.

"You really ought to get back to your homework," Mrs Williams snapped. "I am sorry, but I know my record better than you do."

Voters in the constituency, where 11 per cent of children go to nine fee-paying schools, see private education as one of the key issues in next week's poll.

Mrs Williams, who stood alongside representatives of the two other main parties, was jeered and heckled throughout the hour-long meeting of the school's debating society.

Louise Drake, aged 17, of Park Avenue, Crosby, asked her: "Why do the gang of four all disagree on important issues?" Mrs Williams beckoned her back to explain.

Although she has said in the past that she wants to abolish private schools, Mrs Williams now backs the SDP policy on allowing parents some freedom of choice, but she told the girls that such schools were socially divisive.

Bucher was unable to attend, but the Garston MP, Mr Malcolm Thomson, who is masterminding his campaign, stood in and won rousing approval for the Tory line. Mr Backhouse, however, was booed into silence. "The only thing to do with schools like this is to wipe them out of existence," he said.

Boy bruised 60 times over three months

From Our Correspondent Norwich

Jason Caesar, aged 19 months, suffered 60 bruises on his head and body, arm fractures and internal injuries in the three months before his death, a jury at Norwich Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mr Anthony Wilcken, for the prosecution, said in his closing speech that there was no direct evidence that the boy's mother or her lover, who are accused of the child's manslaughter, had ever deliberately struck him with the intention of hurting him. But there was an abundance of circumstantial evidence against both.

Those of us who have children know they sometimes get into impossible scrapes and come back with quite remarkable bruises. That may happen once or twice but in this case it is not only the severity of the bruises but their widespread distribution over the head and body over a long period of time," he said.

In this case there was example after example of explanation given to you by either of the two defendants as to how that child suffered those injuries.

Mrs Christine Caesar, aged 25, of Darwin Drive, Cambridge, said she was a single mother and a full-time nurse. The court has heard that she died on Guy Fawkes night last year after being left alone in his very cold bedroom for 16 hours.

Mr Richard Davis, the chief social worker, was in an unenviable position, Mr Wilcken said. "Other people who came into contact with the family had medical expertise; he did not."

"He was a social worker and it may well be he feels a degree of responsibility on his shoulder, for that family was under his surveillance and supervision for a long time."

It was the job of the social worker to establish a close relationship with the family and to look for signs of rejection, said Mr Davis. He told Mrs Caesar he did not think she was "overtly" harming her child.

But, Mr Wilcken said: "This sort of offence is not committed overtly but away from the eyes of neighbours and prying social workers."

The case continues today.

IN BRIEF

'Dead' woman in a coma again

Mrs Jackie Roiser, aged 32, of Chapel Street, Stroud, Gloucestershire, who was certified dead last March, regained consciousness in a mortuary, and made a full recovery, was in a coma in hospital yesterday.

She was found unconscious at home by the police who had been called by neighbours. She suffers from the slimy disease, anorexia nervosa.

Rate levy appeal

Mr Jack Lockwood, aged 44, is lodging an appeal at Huddersfield Crown Court under the general Rate Act, 1967, against West Yorkshire County Council's levy off 9.5p in the pound supplementary rate, mainly to pay for its bus service.

Bomb hoaxers held

Jacqueline Stoddals, a convicted killer, and Patricia Franklin, both of Oxford Gardens, North Kensington, London, were yesterday committed in custody for crown court sentence after admitting that they made a hoax bomb call to Capitol Radio.

Woman dead on beach

Police toured boarding houses at Eastbourne yesterday with a photograph of a young woman who was found dead on the beach. A post-mortem examination showed that she had head injuries while still alive. She had a small wart under her lower lip.

Charity home charge

Brian Rowlandson, aged 37, superintendent at Angers House, Church Road, Waverley, Liverpool, a charity home for spastics, charged with stealing £1,200 from Ann Richard, one of the residents, was remanded on bail by Liverpool magistrates yesterday.

Scargill's TV appearance 'may have been mistake'

By Kenneth Gossling

An MP who accused BBC television of "mind-boggling ineptitude" in allowing Mr Arthur Scargill to appear on the Michael Parkinson show during the election to the National Union of Mine Workers' presidential election has been told: "It may have been a mistake."

But in a letter to Mr John Gurn, MP for Islington, Central, Sir Ian Trethowan, Director-General of the BBC, says: "I rather doubt whether

it will have had a big effect". Sir Ian says that any impression the Yorkshire miners' leader may have made in the show on November 7 would surely have faded by the time polling took place between December 2 and 4.

Mr Grant, who recently announced that he was leaving Labour for the Social Democrats, said the BBC had tactfully acknowledged their mistake.

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"I've been rich and I've been poor."



Bailey

"Rich is better."

True, some people find me hard to take. I put that in part down to jealousy and part down to the fact that I'm hard to take. People with clear and definite ideas usually are. But funny enough for someone who likes to talk so much my most important talent is listening.

In 1975 I was selling savings plans reasonably successfully, but I hadn't exactly reached the Promised Land.

I could not quite figure out what it was, but I knew that there was something that I could do as well, if not better, than anyone else.

In an effort to pin point the opportunities I started listening to the inspectors of Life Assurance companies.

After all they meet all the big boys, who better to learn from?

Richard Usmar on building up a business from nothing.

One man in particular, a Mr. Rod Roberts who runs Albany Life in Birmingham was the key to my future. It was just one sentence he used that I think started me on the right road. He said to me, "The company cheque book is so much bigger than the private cheque book".

Simple isn't it?

So I started in the company market. And slowly over six years it grew and grew until I was specialising in pensions for directors of small companies.

Now the boss of a profitable small company in my neck of the woods is a no nonsense sort of fellow. He's hardly going to take advice from a guy driving a second hand Ford Escort, so I bought a Rolls.

I invested in myself, I have a beautiful office, a beautiful house. I have to, a financial adviser who's poor is a poor financial adviser.

But it's not just the money. It's the excitement of dealing with self-made men. They're aggressive and difficult to deal with, just like me.

It's like catching a powerful salmon on a light line. But once caught you have to look after them.

You have to give them the best possible return on their investment. Which is the reason I favour Albany Life. And how I keep my salmon from going off.

Albany Life



هكذا من الأحمال

How civil strife in Ulster claims its victims

Mrs Thatcher among 500 names in IRA hit list

From Ivor Davies, Los Angeles

A lengthy "hit list" containing the names, and in many cases, the home addresses of British peers, MPs, judges, business executives and police officers has been presented in evidence as the British Government continues to press its efforts to have an American extradited from San Francisco to face charges in the murder of London policeman Stephen Tibble in 1975.

William Joseph Quinn, 33, an American-born clerk, is being held without bail as the U.S. Attorney's office in San Francisco takes legal steps to extradite him in connection with the shooting of constable Tibble as well as on charges of conspiracy to cause explosions.

Quinn had been sought by Scotland Yard for 18 years. His fingerprints are alleged to

have been found at three IRA bomb factories in London and on letterbombs and PC Tibble is claimed to have been shot when he gave chase after seeing Quinn leave one of the London bomb factories in Rammersmith. Quinn was arrested by the FBI at his place of work in October.

In support of extradition a voluminous file of 400 pages of statements and information was presented in San Francisco this week. It included a long list of names of prominent British people which was presented to the U.S. Attorney General, Mr. Edmund Byrne, on December 16, 1975. The address was believed to be an IRA headquarters.

The lists were discovered by police four days after an IRA bomb factory was discovered and shortly after the

December, 1975. Balcombe Street siege ended.

One document presented in evidence which was taken from the Milton grove address contained only the name Thatcher with the notation only Flood Street. Another list of names on a separate sheet included Sir William Dennis Pile, Sir Philip Rogers, Department of Health, Sir Douglas Albert Adler, Civil Service, Sir James Jones, Department of Environment, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher, with no job description.

There were altogether more than 500 names on the lists, including Mr James Callaghan and Mr Edward Heath as well as Mrs Thatcher.

Other prominent people, some with addresses, included: Lord Pilkington, Lord Aberdare, Lord Samuel, Members of Parliament including Patrick McNair-Wilson, Julian Ridsdale, Michael Hamilton and the late Airey Neave. Others included Sir Arthur Irvine, John Ernest Sillkin, Lord Carrington, Lord Hesketh, Sir Arthur Peterson, Sir Kenneth Berrill, Sir Arthur Drew and someone listed simply as "S. Jones".

Among the documents filed were nine pages of names of police officers, 10 pages of MPs, five pages of peers, three pages of judges.

The next hearing on Mr Quinn's extradition hearing is expected to take place in San Francisco on November 30.



Ulster victims: These 36 represent rather more than one-third of this year's total.

Bognor fishermen foul a legal snag

From John Young, Chichester

Life for the hundreds of fishermen around the coasts of Britain who sell their catches from piers, jetties or simply from the beach was made just a bit more difficult yesterday by events in a magistrates' court at Chichester.

On a windy, rainswept morning, Ernie Ragless, aged 53, Duncan Crosswaite, aged 54, and Brian Ide, aged 49, beached their boats earlier than usual beside Bognor Regis Pier.

For the first time in their lives they had an appointment with the law, and in due course were fined £30, £70 and £85 respectively for contravening the Food Hygiene (Market, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

For more than a century, as their solicitor, Mr Richard Deighton, pointed out in court, freshly caught fish has been sold from Bognor beach. Mr Ragless has been in the business since before the last war; Mr Ide succeeded his father and his grandfather in all that time there had not been "one single, solitary complaint" from a purchaser.

But that was not enough to deter Arun District Council from pressing charges. Although it agreed at the start of yesterday's hearing to withdraw four of its complaints.

All three fishermen pleaded guilty to having inadequate sinks and hand basins and not displaying their names and/or addresses conspicuously enough.

Mr Crosswaite and Mr Ide also admitted that some of their equipment did not comply with the cleanliness regulations and that they had allowed fish to be wrapped in printed material, to wit newspapers.

Mr Reginald Rance, for the prosecution, said that on June 17 two environmental health officers from the council had visited the stalls on the beach because of growing concern about their condition.

It was not the Council's case that on the day in question the fish was not fresh, or that it was not sold on the day that it was caught, or that the stalls did not provide a point of interest and attraction for visitors, or that fishing was not a hazardous occupation.

But after the fishermen had been warned on a previous visit, the officers had noted a number of breaches of the regulations.

Mr Deighton said his clients would claim that their fish was fresher than anything to be found in fish shops in Bognor Regis or anywhere else. Everyone knew that, when you degusted fish, you got a smell. It was still the practice of many people to bring newspapers with them in which to wrap their purchases.

Before announcing the fines, Mr Martin Beale, the magistrate, said the court appreciated the long tradition of the sale of fish direct from fishermen, and there was no reason why it should not continue. Over the years, however, public standards and expectations of hygiene had heightened.

The 94 murdered at work and at home

From Chris Thomas, and Tim Cooke, Belfast

The murder rate has increased sharply since the collapse of the IRA hunger strike.

Eleven civilians have been murdered since the end of the hunger strike at the beginning of October, and six Ulster Defence Regiment men and one police reservist. That total of 18 since October compares with only three deaths in the same period last

year. So far 94 this year have died compared with 76 last year.

So far this year 755 persons have been charged in connection with terrorist offences.

By far the worst year of the troubles was 1972 when 467 people were killed, more than 300 of them civilians. Altogether since 1969, 2,065 people have lost their lives.

January
Lindsay McDougall, 36, Belfast, RUC Reserve constable. Shot on patrol.
Ivan Tombs, 42, Part-time UDR major and Customs officer. Shot at Warrenpoint customs post.
Maurice Givray, 24, Belfast. A Catholic found shot dead on border road in south Armagh. Claimed by the IRA to have been an informer.

Private Christopher Shanton, 21, from Stoke-on-Trent. Shot in Londonderry.
Sir Norman Stronge, 86, and son James Stronge, 48, Protestants of Tynan Abbey, County Armagh. Shot by the IRA at their Tynan Abbey home.
Corporal Philip Barker, 25, from Manchester, a soldier shot in Belfast.

February
Charles Wilson Lewis, 38, RUC Reservist, shot outside a news agency in Belfast.
Alexander Scott, 36, Belfast. Part-time RUC Reservist shot at his wife's shop in Belfast.
David Samuel Montgomery, 27, Londonderry. Part-time UDR man, shot at work in store-room of timber firm.
Patrick Trainor, 28, a Roman Catholic, Belfast. Shot by IRA who claimed he was an informer.
James Burns, 33, Belfast. Shot while asleep at home.

March
Gerry Rowland, 40, Crossmaglen. Shot while in a friend's car.
Patrick Joseph McNally, 20, a Roman Catholic, Belfast. Shot by the UDR while travelling in stolen car.
John Smith, 25, Belfast. Part-time UDR man shot walking to work.
Paul Blake, 26, Belfast. Shot from passing car.

April
Kenneth John Achesson, 23, Armagh. RUC man killed in booby-trapped car.
Joanna Mathers, Strabane. Housewife, shot on census collection.
Jack Donnelly, 56, County Tyrone. Part-time UDR shot in pub.
James Gary Enghab, 19, Londonderry and James Brown, 18, two Roman Catholics knocked down by an Army Land-Rover during rioting in Londonderry.
John Robinson, 38, Aughnacloy, former UDR man, shot in factory minibus near Armagh.
Paul Whitters, 15, Londonderry, killed by a plastic bullet during riots.
Gary Martin, 28, co Down, policeman, killed in a booby-trap explosion while examining a stolen lorry in West Belfast.
Richard William James McKee, 27, Warrenpoint. UDR man shot in an ambush.

May
Philip Charles Ellis, 33, Belfast. RUC man shot in Belfast.
James Power, 21, Roman Catholic, Belfast. INLA man killed by own bomb.
Desmond Guiney, 14, Rathcoole. Milkman's son whose father's vehicle crashed after being stoned by a mob.
Emmanuel McLarnon, 20, a Roman Catholic, Belfast. INLA man shot by the Army.
Julie Livingston, 23, Andersonstown. Hit by plastic bullet.
Eric Guiney, 45, Rathcoole. Milkman, whose vehicle crashed in mob stoning.
Samuel Valley, 23, Glasgarmyle. Policeman killed in rocket attack in West Belfast.
Patrick Martin, 38, Belfast. Shot in bedroom.
Five soldiers killed in a landmine explosion near Newry in South Armagh.

Rifleman Andrew Gavin, 19, from Acton, London.
Rifleman Michael Edward Bagshaw, 25 from Abingdon.
Lance Corporal Grenville Winston, 27, from Bedford.
Rifleman John William King, 22, from Buckingham.
Private Paul Bulman, 19, from North Shields.
Harry Duffy, 45, Londonderry. Hit by plastic bullet in rioting.
Carol Anne Kelly, 11, Belfast. Killed by plastic bullet.
Thomas Allen Ritchie, 28, Magherafelt. Part-time UDR man shot at Gulliniff.
Charles McGuire, 21, and George McBreary, 23, both from Londonderry. IRA men shot dead by plain clothes soldier in Londonderry.
Mervyn Basil Robinson, 47, Belleek. Policeman shot near Newry.
Sgt Major Michael O'Neill, 24, from Humberston. Bomb disposal expert killed in car bomb explosion near Newry.
Colin Dunlop, 30, Belfast. Policeman shot at Royal Victoria Hospital.
Joseph Lynch, struck by police vehicle, Belfast.

Ronnie Graham, 39, part-time UDR man shot near Lisnakea.
Christopher Kyle, 25, County Tyrone. Part-time RUC reserve constable shot driving home from work in Omagh.
Neal Quinn, 33, Newry. RUC man shot in Newry pub.
Vincent Robinson, Suffolk. Alleged informer shot by IRA.

July
John Dempsey, 16, Belfast. Shot by Army during Belfast riot.
David Barrett, 15, Belfast. Shot by Army in Ardoyne area of Belfast.
Mrs Nora McCabe, 30, Belfast. Hit by a plastic bullet.
Lance Corporal Gavin Deane, 21, from Rathfriland, Kent. Killed in gun battle with IRA in South Armagh.
John Hazlett, 46, Maghera. Shot in Maghera, believed mistaken for a UDR man.
Thomas Harpur, 30, from Sion Mills. Former RUC man shot by INLA gunmen in Strabane.
Peter Doherty, 36, Belfast. Hit by plastic bullet.
Hugh O'Neill, Belfast, is accidental INLA shooting.
Cecil Stewart, Londonderry, shot in woods, Waterside area, of Londonderry.

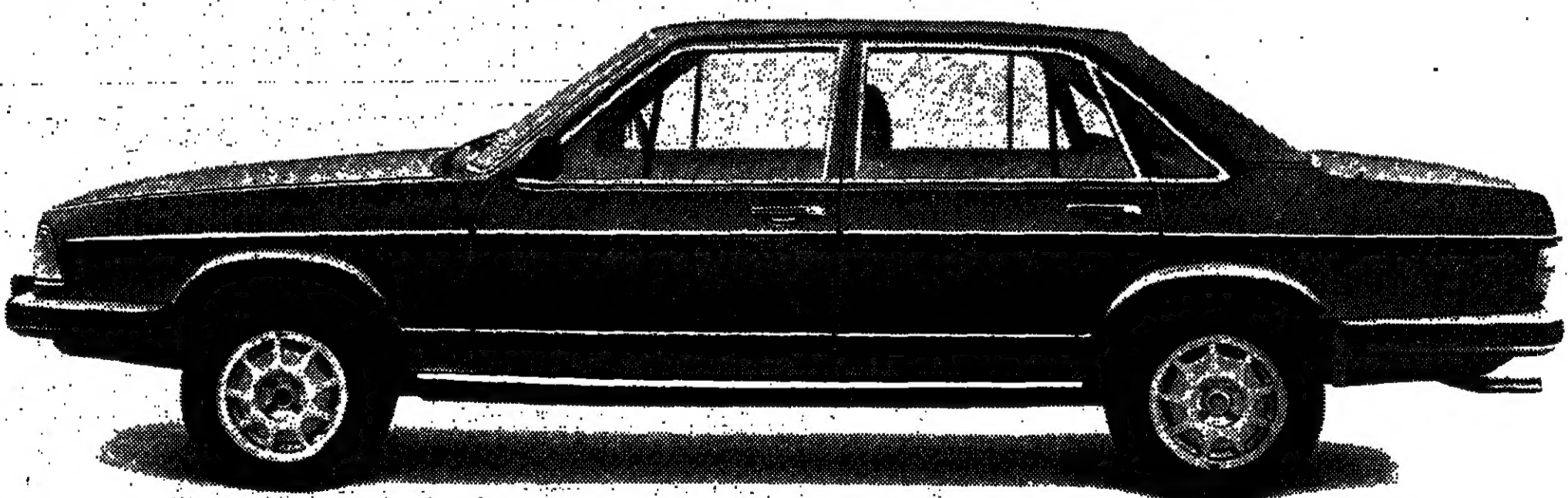
August
John Smyth, 34, from Omagh and Andrew Alfred Woods, 50, from Omagh, both IRA men killed by IRA bomb, Carrickmore.
Peter Magennis, 41, Newtownabbey. Died in rioting in home estate.
Liam Arthur Canning, 19, Glasgarmyle. Shot while walking in Belfast.
Charles Johnston, 45, Belfast. Shot by gunmen in Belfast city centre.

September
Sham Singh Virdee from Birmingham. Soldier shot dead in Belfast flat after being lured there by two girls.
Mark Evans, 20, Belfast and John Stuart Montgomery, 19, Comber. Both policemen killed by an IRA landmine near Cappagh, County Tyrone.
Alan Clarke, 20, Upperlands. Part-time UDR man shot by gunmen in Maghera.
John Proctor, 25, Upperlands. RUC reservist shot by gunmen outside hospital.
Eugene Mulholland, 25, a Roman Catholic, Belfast. Shot walking in Belfast.
George Alexander Stewart, 33, policeman shot at a pub at Killybegs.
Anthony Brauff, 27, Belfast. Shot by the IRA in Belfast.
Alexander Beck, 37, Ranger. Policeman killed in rocket blast in Land-Rover in West Belfast.
Mark Stockman, 18, Belfast. Part-time UDR man shot outside Mackies factory, Belfast.

October
Rector Raymond Hall, 22, Londonderry. Former UDR man shot in the grounds of Almsgelvin hospital.
Lawrence Kennedy, 35, Roman Catholic, Belfast. A Belfast City councillor shot in the Shamrock Social Club.
Robert Ewing, 34, Belfast. Roman Catholic shot by gunmen who burst into his home.
Mrs Mary McKay, 68, Belfast. Elderly widow shot by gunmen in her bedroom.
William McCullough, 32, Belfast. UDA man shot by gunmen outside his home.
Stephen Hamilton, 24, Belfast. Alleged taxi hijacker shot by the RUC.
Julian Patrick Connolly, 49, Belfast. Part-time UDR sergeant and zoo foreman/gardener shot at home.
Edward Patrick Brogan, 28, Strabane. Punishment shooting victim found shot in Londonderry.

November
Rector James Bettice, 35, Belfast. Shot in his home.
Trevor Foster, 17, County Armagh. Killed in car bomb explosion at home.
Charles Neville, 58, County Armagh. Former UDR man shot and attacked with hand grenade in Armagh.
Cecil Graham, 32, County Fermanagh. Part-time UDR man shot near Lisnakea.
The Rev Robert Bradford, 40, Belfast. Official Unionist MP shot by IRA gunmen at Finaghy community centre.
Kenneth Campbell, 29, Finaghy, community worker at Finaghy, killed in same incident as Mr Bradford.
Thomas Anthony McNulty, 18, a Roman Catholic, Belfast. Shot by gunmen in Belfast.
Pender Fagan, 20, Roman Catholic, Lurgan. Shot at talked to a friend in a car at Lurgan.
Silas Weir Lytle, 59, RUC Reservist died seven weeks after being shot in the back at Ballygawley.
Albert Beaton, 43, County Fermanagh. Part-time UDR man shot in his farmyard.

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Price	£8,688	£9,497	£9,614	£9,757	£9,015
Model range prices from	£7,192	£6,998	£7,210	£7,450	£9,015
Av. interior width (in.)	57.5	54	56	57.0	56.5
Front headroom (in.)	39	37	35.5	35.5	38
Rear headroom (in.)	34	35	33	33	34
Boot (cu ft)	22.7	21.5	14.3	12.3/44*	17.0

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According to What Car? magazine it has a top speed of 115 mph and accelerates from 0-60 mph in 10.0 seconds. It also returns an official fuel consumption figure of 37.7 mpg at a steady 56 mph, and over 22 mpg around town.

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OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE AUDI 100 GL URBAN CYCLE ARE: 22.2 MPG (12.7 L/100 KM); AT 56 MPH: 37.7 MPG (7.5 L/100 KM) AND AT 75 MPH: 29.1 MPG (9.7 L/100 KM). ALLOY WHEELS SHOWN ARE AN OPTIONAL EXTRA. FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE TO AUDI MARKETING DEPT VAG LIMITED, HINDEN ROAD, WIDEN, YORKS YO21 2DU. TEL: 01937 546111.

Haddad's militias besiege UN peace force base

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Nov 18

A siege by Israeli-backed Christian militias which has trapped 1,150 United Nations civilian and military personnel in their headquarters in southern Lebanon since early yesterday was continuing tonight.

Major Saad Haddad, the militia commander, said at an Israeli border settlement that the blockade would be maintained until UNIFIL (the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) pledged to take a tougher stand against Palestinian infiltrators and until UNIFIL released 18 of his men who have been surrounded by Israeli troops since early yesterday.

Major Haddad said that if the UNIFIL approach did not change, his men would extend their action to other United Nations positions in the border region. He said that his militias had been told not to shoot at the UN headquarters but to surround it. He said that the UNIFIL troops opened fire "that will be the end of UNIFIL and of south Lebanon".

The major's conditions were rejected by Mr. Timor Goksel, the United Nations spokesman, who said by telephone from the UN headquarters in Beirut that the main road leading north and south was blocked, trapping 150 civilians in the makeshift military complex for the second night.

He added that the trapped United Nations personnel were running "critically short" of water after Major Haddad's men had twice sabotaged the pipeline which provides the base with its water supplies.

Israelis put strategic arms cooperation terms to US

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Nov 18

An Israeli delegation has presented the Reagan Administration with a draft memorandum of agreement on strategic cooperation between the two states.

The Israeli proposal, according to diplomatic sources, calls for a high level of military cooperation including the use by the United States Air Force of new Israeli bases in the Negev Desert, joint naval manoeuvres, the stockpiling of American weapons and supplies in Israel for use by American forces, and the sharing of military intelligence.

The memorandum was brought to Washington at the end of last week by an Israeli delegation led by Major General Avraham Tamir, the Assistant Defence Minister. The same delegation is due back in Washington soon to receive the Administration's response. It is expected that General Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Defence Minister, will fly to Washington

at a later date to finalise the pact.

The proposal for strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States was first made by the Americans after President Reagan took office. It formed part of the American plan to develop a strategic consensus, involving Israel and moderate Arab countries such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia, aimed at preventing Soviet expansion in the Middle East.

The matter was raised again during the visit to Washington last September by Mr. Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister.

Yemen, Libya and South Yemen meeting in Addis Ababa have agreed to protest in the United Nations, the Organisation of African Unity, the Arab League and the Non-aligned Movement about the American "Bright Star" military manoeuvres in Egypt, Sudan, Oman and Somalia (Charles Harrison writes from Nairobi).

Arabs keep silent on Saudi peace plan

By Richard Owen

With less than a week to go before the Arab summit in Fez, Morocco, both moderate and radical Arab states are growing increasingly uncommunicative about the attitudes they are likely to adopt towards the Saudi peace proposals.

King Hussein of Jordan, who is visiting London briefly after his talks in Washington, avoided any public reference to the Saudi plan, which Jordan has so far supported.

In an address to the Arab Research Centre, noteworthy for its tone of unrelieved gloom, King Hussein said that he saw little sign of progress towards peace in the Middle East, and regretted that the United States had a distorted view of events in the region.

King Hussein said he had told President Reagan that the United Nations Resolution 242, which remained unfulfilled after 14 years, was the only basis for a "peace settlement". This meant, the King said, total Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories, including the West Bank, with the "Arab part" of Jerusalem returned to Arab sovereignty.

Although such an approach is consistent with the Saudi plan, King Hussein refrained from drawing the inference, instead he painted a markedly pessimistic picture of Israeli intransigence, and condemned the Camp David process, while referring obliquely to the murder of President Sadat of Egypt as a tragic event.

Saudi attempts to canvass wider support for their proposals continued yesterday with a visit to Damascus by Prince Saud al Faisal, the Saudi Foreign Minister.

The Syrians have been hostile to the Saudi proposals, which contain an implicit recognition of Israel. A spokesman for President Assad of Syria, however, told reporters that Syria had formally rejected the plan, and would make its views clear at the Morocco summit.

Mr. Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, who is on a tour of the Gulf states, has been similarly cautious before leaving Bahrain for the United Arab Emirates yesterday he was quoted by the Gulf News Agency as saying that the Saudi plan was "based on Palestinian national rights", but was "open to discussion".

Resistance about the merits of the Saudi plan has extended even to the usually vocal members of the radical Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which includes Syria, the PLO, Algeria, Libya and South Yemen.

At a meeting in Aden in advance of next week's summit, Mr. Saleh Mohamed, the South Yemen Foreign Minister, attacked American policy towards the Middle East, but refrained from comment on the Saudi proposals.



Hands stretch to greet Mrs Thatcher as she arrives with Herr Schmidt, the Chancellor, to attend a luncheon in Bonn.

Thatcher drops a few names

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Nov 18

Mrs Margaret Thatcher today provided some ammunition for her critics by dropping a few names in her speech to the Bundestag.

The British Prime Minister, who was in Bonn for a day, said that she was "delighted" to see the British director of the Cologne Opera, "as announced".

But Mr. John Pritchard, "as announced", was "not here", she said. "He is not here", she said. "I've got five or six more names to mention".

The Prime Minister, calling out "the British conductor of the Bamberg Symphony", "as announced".

Resistance about the merits of the Saudi plan has extended even to the usually vocal members of the radical Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which includes Syria, the PLO, Algeria, Libya and South Yemen.

Hard-pressed Schmidt greets Reagan offer to ban missiles

By Our Foreign Staff

New governments in Europe are delighted with President Reagan's offer to negotiate with the Soviet Union for a complete ban on the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles on their soil.

This so-called zero-option, is exactly what hard-pressed West European leaders like Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, have been seeking, to undercut the arguments of the growing peace movements in their countries.

Speaking in Bonn at a luncheon for Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Herr Schmidt promised yesterday to plead strenuously for a complete ban on nuclear weapons in Europe when he meets President Brezhnev in the West German capital next week.

At the same time, Herr Schmidt said, he would make it clear to Mr. Brezhnev that NATO would proceed with its planned deployment of 572 cruise and Pershing 2 missiles if the Soviet Union failed to agree to arms reductions.

There was no immediate reaction to Mr. Reagan's initiative from Moscow, but it is expected to be cool. For the first time since he took office at the beginning of the year, the Soviet Union will not automatically be able to assume the role of the peacemaker, which they have used to great propaganda advantage against Washington in recent months.

Typical of NATO reaction to the American offer was a statement from the Foreign Office in London noting "with pleasure" the emphasis given in President Reagan's speech to the need for a "truly significant progress in arms control, particularly in Europe".

The Belgian Government, which, like the Dutch, faces strong domestic opposition to new American nuclear missiles on its soil, remains faithful to the moment to the NATO decision of 1979 to press for arms reductions with Moscow while planning at the same time to deploy its weapons.

The Belgian general election earlier this month gave no clues as to how a new government will deal with the problem.

All NATO governments appear to have been shown an advance copy of Mr. Reagan's speech. In recent months consultations between Washington and European capitals have not always been as close.

The Americans also seem fit to let the Soviet Union know in advance about Mr. Reagan's intentions. Mindful of the anger in Moscow which greeted President Carter's sudden decision to seek deep cuts in strategic weapons four years ago, Mr. Arthur Hartman, the new ambassador in the Soviet capital, presented Mr. Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, with a text of the speech yesterday.

Neither side would disclose any details of their conversation, which Tass, the Soviet news agency, said had covered Soviet-American relations and international problems. It is thought unlikely that Mr. Gromyko had any substantive reaction at this early date.

The NATO members will get their first chance to respond collectively to Mr. Reagan's speech when their representatives meet in Brussels tomorrow in what is expected to be a final coordinating session before the formal opening of the Geneva talks.

Mr. Michael Foot, the Labour Party leader, gave an enthusiastic welcome to President Reagan's offer. He forecast that it could be a breakthrough in the nuclear race (the Press Association reports).

In a BBC radio interview he said: "I greatly welcome this announcement. It is the most significant announcement that has so far come from the Reagan Administration on arms limitation."

"Of course, everyone will want to look at details, but this is a line which we in the Labour Party have been advocating for some time."

Mr. Foot said the zero option in effect had been proposed at the Labour Party Conference in 1980. The party had been campaigning for it ever since.

IN BRIEF

Swedes find another submarine

Stockholm.—A Swedish helicopter was damaged when one of its sounding devices caught on an unidentified submarine in international waters off the Swedish island of Gotland, a Defence Staff spokesman said. The helicopter, which was taking soundings during Swedish naval exercises, lost sight when its hydrophone became caught on the submarine. The vessel disappeared, taking part of the hydrophone with it. Two weeks ago, Sweden released a Soviet submarine which ran aground near a restricted naval base at Karlskrona in Swedish territorial waters.

Moscow rebuffed

On Afghanistan.—New York.—By a vote of 116 in favour, 23 against, and 12 abstentions, the United Nations General Assembly called for the immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. It was the largest vote against the Soviet Union since its intervention in December 1979. India, Algeria and Nicaragua, usually expected to side with Moscow abstained and Romania did not participate in the voting.

Kissinger rescued

Brasilia.—Brazilian military police rescued Dr. Henry Kissinger, the former American Secretary of State, from the University of Brasilia administration building after 400 student-activists trapped him inside after he had given a lecture.

Plagiarism claim

Madrid.—Professor Manuel Villar Raso, literature professor at the University of Granada, said in Barcelona that he will bring a suit for plagiarism against the author and publisher of the novel which this year won the prestigious Nadal literary prize, the Planeta Award. He claimed that the prize, worth 50 pesetas (about £5,000), was awarded to a plagiarist of his own novel, "Basque commandos", released by another publisher over a year ago.

Nine to die

Islamabad.—A judge at Hyderabad sentenced to death nine people, including a former deputy commissioner and superintendent of police, for the murders of six Hindu tribesmen in 1973. The six Hindus were said to have been followers of Sir Pagan, an opponent of Mr. Zulfikar Bhutto, the executed prime minister.

Asylum sought

The Hague.—Bozenna Wolkowska, the Polish badminton champion, and another Polish woman player have asked for political asylum in the Netherlands after being attached to a Dutch club as guests of the Justice Ministry said today.

Polo death

Lagos.—Shehu Muhammad Kargwa of Sokoto, died after falling off his horse while playing polo.

Volcano erupts

Reykjavik.—Molten lava burst out of a five-mile long crack in the side of an Icelandic mountain in the eighth and most powerful eruption in the area since 1975. Geologists said there was no danger to people or buildings.

Refugees seized

La Virrud, Honduras.—Uniformed Salvadoran soldiers have crossed into this town on the El Salvador border and taken several refugees back across the frontier. In the village at the time was Mrs. Blanca Jager, former wife of the rock singer, and members of international relief agencies.

\$1m for family

Miami.—A county district in Florida has agreed to pay \$1m (£520,000) to relatives of a black insurance salesman whose beating to death by white policemen led to a race riot in Miami last year.

Journalist jailed

Madrid.—Xavier Vinader, a Spanish journalist who named as neo-fascists two men later killed by Basque guerrillas, has been given a seven-year jail sentence and a £100,000 fine by a Madrid court. He was charged with complicity in the murders and collaboration with armed groups.

ISRAEL SETS HEARING FOR LEAK CASE

Mr. Aryeh Naor, the Israeli Cabinet Secretary, accused of leaking a story to harm President Carter during the last presidential election campaign, is to face a civil disciplinary tribunal on December 15.

Mr. Naor was said to have given to Mr. Ranan Lurie, now the political cartoonist of The Times, a story of a purported telephone conversation between President Carter and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor. Mr. Lurie, who represented a newspaper syndicate at the time, did not publish the story.

The indictment alleges that Mr. Naor offered the story to Mr. Lurie as secret information which he had obtained in his official capacity. It adds that Mr. Naor was aware of the fact that the story might cause concrete damage to the President during the presidential elections due to take place a few days later.



fascinating, many-faceted mexico

A tourist country par excellence, Mexico offers you a fascinating journey through time and space, taking you back to the pre-Columbian era whose mysterious Olmec, Toltec, Mayan and Aztec civilizations have left impressive reminders of the distant past. Later came the colonial period, with its legacy of Baroque palaces and richly decorated churches like Santa Prisca in Taxco... and, more recently, the explosion of modern Mexico, proudly typified by the capital, Mexico City, with its broad avenues, tree-shaded parks, and museums housing innumerable treasures of the fabulous past as well as striking examples of contemporary Mexican art, not forgetting Guadalajara, a large up-to-date town which has succeeded in preserving its old-world charm. Here too are many beach resorts, some of them world-famous like Acapulco, Puerto Vallarta and Cancun: others more unspoiled, featuring immense expanses of fine sand fringed by tropical vegetation such as Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo, Carey's and the beaches of Baja California. There is a wide range of hotels and restaurants serving delicious Mexican specialities. And everywhere you'll encounter a hospitality as warm as the sunshine which this friendly country enjoys all the year-round.

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Text of US President's declaration of intent

Washington.—Here is a partial text of President Reagan's address to the National Press Club here.

I want to speak today to this audience, and the people of the world, about America's programme for peace and the coming negotiations which begin in Geneva.

Most of us share a common appreciation of the Atlantic alliance that has made a peaceful, free and prosperous Western Europe in the post-war era possible.

But today a new generation is emerging on both sides of the Atlantic. Its members were not present at the creation of the North Atlantic Alliance. Many of them do not fully understand its roots in defending freedom and rebuilding a war-torn continent.

Some young people question why we need weapons—particularly nuclear weapons—to deter war and to assure peaceful development. They fear that the accumulation of weapons itself may lead to conflagration. Some even propose unilateral disarmament.

I understand their concerns. Their questions deserve to be answered.

No weapons will be used unless Nato is attacked

... But we have an obligation to answer your questions on the basis of judgment and reason and experience.

From its founding, the Atlantic alliance has preserved the peace through unity, deterrence and dialogue.

First, we and our allies have stood united by the firm commitment that an attack upon any one of us would be considered an attack upon us all.

Second, we and our allies have deterred aggression by maintaining forces strong enough to ensure that any aggressor would lose more from an attack than he could possibly gain.

Third, we and our allies have engaged the Soviets in a dialogue about mutual restraint and arms limitations, hoping to reduce the risk of war and the

burden of armaments, and to lower the barriers that divide East from West.

Today, I wish to reaffirm America's commitment to the Atlantic alliance and to our resolve to sustain the peace. And from my conversations with allied leaders, I know that they also remain true to this tried and proven course.

Nato's policy of peace is based on restraint and balance. No Nato weapons, conventional or nuclear, will ever be used in Europe except in response to an attack. Our defence plans have been responsible and restrained. The allies remain strong, united and resolute. But the momentum of the continuing Soviet military build-up and the nuclear balance.

I have just sent another message to the Soviet leadership. It's a simple, straightforward historic message. The United States proposes the mutual reduction of conventional, intermediate-range nuclear and strategic forces.

Specifically, I have proposed a four-point agenda to achieve this objective in my letter to President Brezhnev.

The first, and most important, point concerns the Geneva negotiations. I have informed President Brezhnev that we will seek to negotiate substantial reductions in nuclear arms which would result in levels that are equal and verifiable. Our approach to verification will be to emphasize openness and creativity—rather than the secrecy and suspicion which have undermined confidence in arms control in the past.

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Indeed, the United States dismantled the last such missile in Europe over 15 years ago.

The second proposal I have made to President Brezhnev is that we agree to a new American nuclear missile on open negotiations on strategic arms as soon as possible next year.

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proposed conference on disarmament in Europe. This conference would discuss new measures to enhance stability and security in Europe. Agreement on this conference is within reach. I urge the Soviet Union to join us and the many other nations who are ready to launch this important enterprise.

Preservation of peace in Europe and the pursuit of arms reductions talks are of fundamental importance. But we must also help to bring peace and security to regions now torn by conflict, external intervention and war.

The American concept of peace goes well beyond the absence of war. We foresee a flowering of economic growth and individual liberty in a world at peace.

At the economic summit in Cancun, I met with the leaders of 21 nations and sketched our approach to global economic growth. I urge the Soviet Union to join us and the many other nations who are ready to launch this important enterprise.

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Western alliance faces dangerous rift, Heath says

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Nov 18

The Western alliance is losing its cohesion, and this is creating a very dangerous situation, Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, said here today.

"The continuity has suddenly snapped," he said, during a visit to the European Parliament. This abrupt break threatened the entire process of Western consultation and coordination on economic and defence policies which had continued for 40 years since the signing of the Atlantic Charter.

Now countries were going it alone, making their own policy and saying, "the devil take the hindmost," Mr Heath said.

"It leads to the situation where what you do about a nuclear bomb is entirely a matter for the American Secretary of State for Defence," he said. "There is no reason for Europe to have any say in this, it is argued, because it is not going to be planted in Europe."

Asked whether he was mainly attacking the United States, Mr Heath said the deterioration in international relations was general.

But on the development of the neutron warhead, he said "that was a decision by Mr Weinberger which I think was completely unjustified."

"The same thing applies to the economic attitude of the United States at the moment. We have to recognize that the lessons learnt from experience in the 1920s and 1930s and in the Second World War have been lost, and we have to start again."

The EEC heads of government meeting in London next week must realize that this was a time not for "charity tea parties" but for real decisions to revive Europe's economy and employment prospects, Mr Heath told the Parliament.

When President, Mrs Simone Veil, was presenting him with a gold medal on behalf of the parliamentarians for his services to Europe, Mr Heath said he had appealed for the EEC leaders to "lift their eyes above the minutiae of the petty dogfights and look at the really big problems."

Europe should cut itself adrift from the American interest rates race, he argued, and coordinate economic policies to put the unemployed back to work.

"History is going to produce a most appalling verdict on the present world leadership. At a time when we have 25 million unemployed in the north and \$500,000m worth of unused factory capacity, when we have in the south 10 million people dying of starvation and one child in four dying before the age of one, when we are facing a shortage of food throughout the world, when a shortage of particular metals is going to hit us in Europe before the end of the decade, it is appalling that nothing should be done."

Holden died after fall while drunk

Los Angeles, Nov 18

William Holden, the Academy Award-winning actor, died after tripping over a bedroom rug while drunk, Mr Thomas Noguchi, the Los Angeles County Coroner, said today.

Holden gashed his head on a bedside table and died from loss of blood. He was conscious for five or 10 minutes before collapsing.

His body lay in a pool of blood for four or five days, before it was discovered in his Santa Monica flat on Monday.

A number of blood-stained tissues were found in the bedroom and it appeared Holden had tried to stem the bleeding, Mr Noguchi said.

An empty bottle of vodka was in the kitchen waste bin and another bottle, nearly full, was also in the flat.

There was no sign of foul play, the coroner said. The actor's blood-alcohol content was equivalent to "eight or 10 times" of spirit, perhaps more if he had spread the drinking over a period of time.

"Not murder. Not suicide. No major body trauma," Mr Noguchi said as he left the luxury, high-rise block where Holden had his flat. He spent two hours there today to confirm the results of a post-mortem examination performed yesterday and to look for medical evidence.

The actor, who was 63, won an Oscar for his performance in *Stalag 17*. His other films included *Sunset Boulevard*, *The Moon is Blue*, *Bridge on the River Kwai*, *Towering Inferno* and *Network*. — AP and Reuters



Next stop Cuba: Aleida Fabian, a Miami pharmaceutical assistant, in training as an anti-Castro guerrilla at a Florida camp. She is holding a KG9 9mm pistol.

Arrigo Levi: A personal view Europe hoping words will provide unity

Politics are mostly made of words, institutions and actions. While words can be a pretext for the lack of action they can also be a preparation for action especially if they lead to the setting up or strengthening of political institutions, which is where actions are often decided.

European actions are sometimes criticised for being mostly words, and Europe's foreign policy has been ridiculed for being purely declaratory. Does this criticism apply also to the European Act, the Italian-German text which has now been submitted to the other eight partners? Or could these words lead to more effective European policies and provide an answer to the real needs of the European nations?

Most of the partners agree on the view that a strengthening of their cooperation is needed, to achieve success in their fight against the economic ills of our time and to have greater influence on the world situation. They believe that if the nations of Europe were to act separately they would meet disaster and that they must be more united to reach their aims of prosperity and security. But what must they do about it?

The Italian-German text seems to be an important, though imperfect attempt to provide a global answer to these problems. While, for the moment, it is only planned as an act it could later become a full treaty.

The fact that an act, rather than a treaty, is being suggested, is in itself an admission that there does not seem to be, at present, enough agreement between Europe's political forces for that quality jump in European affairs which would be represented by a new, full treaty.

But this does not mean that the planned act would just be another ineffective piece of European rhetoric such as there have been before. Curiously enough, those parts of the document which include a renewed declaration of European faith are possibly the weakest and the least convincing. But within this rather formal framework there are concrete and substantial suggestions.

I am not referring to the planned statement on economic integration which should accompany the European Act; if it has to be that vague, it had better be abolished.

One can only hope that the difficult negotiations being made on the restructuring of the Community's budget and economic policies will succeed, thus producing a sounder base.

In spite of these and other weaknesses, the proposed European Act would dramatically strengthen European political and economic cooperation and would make it easier for the nations of Europe to protect their common interests.

The key point of the plan seems to be the creation of direct links between the European Council (the political executive of the European Union, made up of the 10 heads of state or government), and the European Parliament.

Another key provision of the act would be the unification and coordination, by the European Council, of all the executive and administrative functions of the existing European institutions, and some new ones as well.

The planned links between this stronger European Council and its executive structures on one side, and the European parliament on the other, would be a great innovation: in this case, words lead to actions. Other aspects of the plan are also of great importance and will be equally controversial: the creation of new councils of ministers for justice and culture, the extension of political cooperation to include problems of security, the weakening of the veto power of each state, the setting up of an evolutionary secretariat for European foreign policy.

Would these plans, if adopted, weaken the European Commission in Brussels? Not necessarily, but this danger does not seem to have been taken adequately into consideration by the authors of the text. The planned secretariats for the European Council and European political cooperation might be set up within the framework of the European Commission.

The document as it now exists, can certainly be improved. But it would be a pity if this project were abandoned — which proves how vital it is to reach a good agreement on the restructuring of the Community's budget and policies, as a necessary pre-condition for another big step on the road to European unification.

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LEFT WINS POWER IN MANITOBA

From our Correspondent

Ottawa, Nov 18

The left-wing New Democratic Party returned to power in Manitoba today, sweeping out the Progressive Conservatives who had held office for only one term.

The NDP, under Mr Howard Pawley, a lawyer who was leading the party for the first time in a provincial general election, won 34 seats. The Conservatives under Mr Sterling Lyon, the Premier, won 23.

At dissolution, the Tories held 32 of the 57 legislature seats, and the NDP 20. The Progressive Party held three, the Liberals one, and there was one vacancy.

Both the Progressives and the Liberals were wiped out today.

Ecevit awaits generals' decision on jail sentence

From Mario Modiano, Ankara, Nov 18

Mr Bülent Ecevit, Turkey's former Prime Minister, sits in the comfort of his suburban apartment at Oran Sehi, near here, waiting for the military regime to decide whether or not he will spend the winter in jail.

He was given a four-months' prison sentence by an Ankara court martial when he defied a ban on statements by politicians, in order to prove that there is no freedom of expression in Turkey today.

Many people here are convinced that Mr Ecevit deliberately laid a trap to provoke the ruling military into jailing him. The timing was, of course, ideal: Western European countries which contribute generously towards Turkey's economic revival were beginning to be favourably impressed by the opening of a newly-appointed consultative assembly in Ankara to help in the drafting of a new constitution.

One week before the inauguration, however, the regime banned the old political parties, blaming them for the chaos that led to the military coup 14 months ago.

Mr Ecevit was court-martialled for rebuffing the accusations against the party leaders made by General Kenan Evren, the Head of State, in announcing the dissolution of the parties. One week later, Istanbul's right-wing daily *Tercuman* was shut down for seven days also for criticizing the ban on parties and opinions.

The prosecution of Mr Ecevit, a Social Democrat with many political friends in western Europe, provoked sharp reactions there, including threats that unless the ruling generals commit themselves to a firm time-table for "democracy", economic aid will be cut off.

The former Prime Minister, in his statement which was never published in Turkey, had invoked his right of rebuttal, although a martial law decree last June forbade politicians to make statements or write articles on Turkey's "past or future" political developments.

While the ruling military tried to muzzle the deposed political leaders at home, they somehow allowed them to see friends, journalists, even foreign parliamentarians, so that even if silence, their

need another system imposed from the top. It needs a process comparable to the one that led to the emergence of democracy in Europe — a democracy won by the new social forces which demanded a place in the balance of power.

Mr Ecevit's defiance poses a practical dilemma for the regime. He cannot appeal against his sentence unless the Ankara martial law commander does so first. If the sentence is upheld and the premier lands in jail, the outcry in the West could undermine the regime's credibility, even its economic prospects.

On the other hand, if he is reprieved by an appeal court, a precedent would be created of free criticism that the regime may not be able to afford.

Turkey, according to this line of thought, does not yet

COAL: INDUSTRY'S SECURITY FOR THE FUTURE.

If you're planning the long term future of your company, you should plan around a source of energy that's going to be around for some time, like coal. Britain has coal reserves which, based on present mining techniques and present levels of production, will last for at least another three hundred years. And, with the improvements in technology that will undoubtedly come during that time, the reserves will last very much longer.

Does your company have this security for the future?

We are sure we don't have to remind you of the three words you can read in the newspapers almost any day of the week: Middle East crisis. We'll leave it to you to conjure up pictures of soaring oil prices, unreliable supplies and increasing tight spots.

In fact, there is now no concrete argument for not installing coal fired boiler equipment, particularly if your company is planning to be around for some time. Maybe even in 300

years time. And isn't that important?

Coal: be prepared to be surprised

There have been some very impressive advances in boiler technology and combustion equipment, as well as methods of coal and ash handling.

The whole operation may be very different from how you imagine.

It's extremely efficient; in excess of 80% thermal efficiency, with modern coal fired plant, which makes coal firing both very economic and competitive.

It can be completely automatic with the modern coal and ash handling equipment now available. This permits coal fired boiler houses to be light, airy and clean.

And it's very up-to-date. Over the years extensive research and development programmes have been carried out. The most recent development is fluidised bed combustion.

This technique provides higher heat release rates, which means boiler sizes, and therefore capital costs, may be reduced.



It also means that a wider range of coal can be burned and, with combustion taking place at a temperature below the melting point of ash, boiler availability is greatly extended.

Companies that can see beyond the next twenty years.

Many far-sighted companies are already using coal fired boilers. Take Graham and Brown, wallpaper printers, for example. Their

new boiler house (which is maintained in absolute pristine condition) has been very much the cornerstone of the company's expansion.

When planning the installation of the new boiler house other fuels were considered, but at the recommendation of their fuel supplier, Graham and Brown, continued with coal. As David Brown, Director, says "That is the business decision we shall all remember as being of great significance. Just on fuel savings alone we have calculated that in the first 3 years of operating the new boiler we saved £80,000."

This boiler house is truly modern and was purposely designed for coal firing. From fuel reception, no fuel is seen or handled and ash is transported away to a silo to await collection. With modern pneumatic handling of coal and ash this boiler house is very efficient and very clean.

Let us tell you more

The wide range of coal fired boiler plant and equipment is designed to meet every conceivable need, from power generating requirements to small units in commercial buildings.

In addition there is a nationwide network of coal-distributors who are strategically situated to give advice and provide an efficient delivery service to industry.

If you would like one of our fuel engineers to visit and give you free, expert advice, contact the NCB Technical Service.

We will also give you information on the recent government grant scheme which provides up to 25% of the cost of switching from oil to coal-fired boilers.

It's worth contacting us now: So that you can help your company to live later.

Send to: The National Coal Board, Technical Service Branch, Marketing Dept., Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7AE

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I would like some technical leaflets on modern industrial burning equipment. ☐

I would like one of your fuel engineers to visit my company. ☐

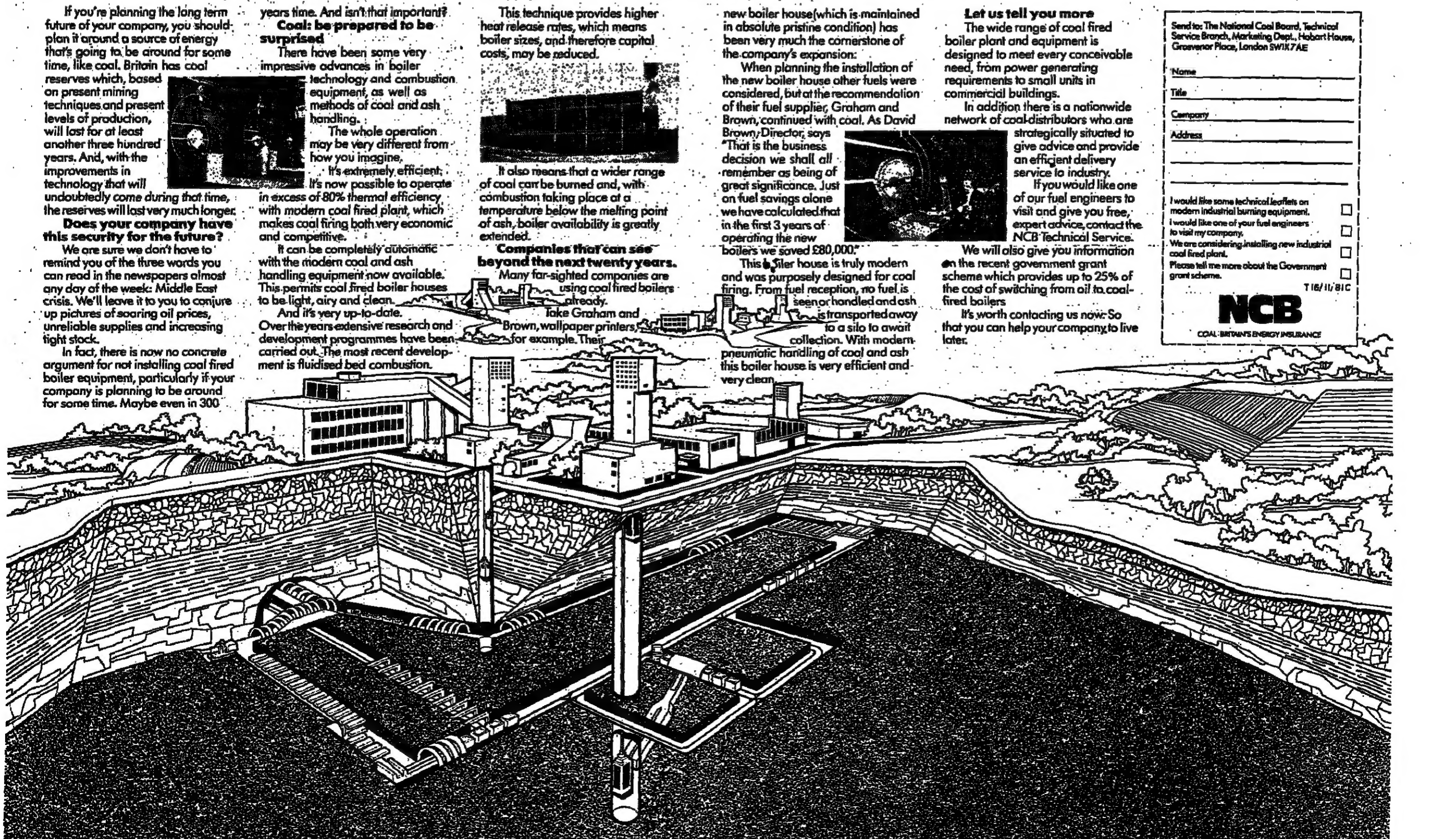
We are considering installing new industrial coal fired plant. ☐

Please tell me more about the Government grant scheme. ☐

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COAL: BRITAIN'S ENERGY INSURANCE



Mitterrand bypasses French Parliament

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Nov 18

The Cabinet took the important step today of deciding to bypass Parliament and implement its new social policy by decree. This procedure has been seldom resorted to under the Fifth Republic.

It was last used in 1967, by the Pompidou Government, to reform the 'social security' system. The Socialist Government is obviously anxious to avoid legislative delay and the kind of obstruction which its nationalisation plans faced in the National Assembly last month, and now in the Senate.

The Cabinet decision is dictated by psychological considerations. Facing the growing economic difficulties, the lack of cooperation—if not the active opposition—of business and industry and with a parliamentary Opposition which has recovered its punch and its spirit, the Government feels the urgent need to demonstrate to the workers, who are more sensitive to unemployment and inflation than to decentralisation and nationalisation, that socialism means a real change in their lives.

M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, has repeatedly promised that the new social policy would be its Christmas present to Frenchmen. It is now making sure that the promise is kept.

The Government's new social policy would include the lowering of the retirement age, the shortening of the working week, the restrictions on pensionable working and the 'solidarity contracts' between the government and local authorities on the creation of job opportunities. M. Pierre Mauroy, the Secretary-General of the Presidency, explained after today's Cabinet meeting.

Before the end of the current session, Parliament would be called on to vote an enabling Bill which would set out the broad objectives of this policy, and empower the Government to issue the necessary technical decrees to implement it after consultation with employers and labour.

The Constitution of 1958 allows the Government to apply to Parliament for authority to

'take by decree, for a limited period of time, measures which normally fall within the scope of law'. There is no question, it was pointed out today by the Prime Minister's office, of reducing the role and the responsibilities of Parliament.

Whatever their professed intentions, the Socialists certainly lay themselves open to Opposition criticism of inconsistency for now resorting to a step which inevitably does so, after years of lambasting right-wing governments for treating the elected representatives of the nation as a rubber stamp.

For the Giscard UDF, the reasons invoked by the government for resorting to decrees were 'fallacious', M. Jean-Claude Gaudin, parliamentary chairman commented: "To say that they are needed to be more effective and avoid wasting time in the battle against unemployment will not make in public opinion. For six months Parliament has been busy with bills which have no connexion with the battle against unemployment, and of which the urgency was not obvious."



"Can't hear you!"

Countdown to election

Softly-softly Muldoon wins votes

From W F Reeves, Wellington, Nov 18

The most talked about feature of the New Zealand general election campaign so far is the uncharacteristic style on the hustings of Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister.

New Zealanders know him as a hard hitting, abrasive leader who delights in going after personalities and taking the fight into his opponent's corner. This time he is low key. After a subdued, televised performance opening his National Party campaign two weeks ago, it was being asked whether the fight had gone out of him.

Labour and Social Credit, the two opposing parties whose leaders, Mr Wallace Rowling and Mr Bruce Beetham, are often eclipsed by Mr Muldoon's dominance of the political scene, were encouraged.

By now, however, as the poll on November 28 approaches, the new Muldoon strategy is emerging. The National Party has switched emphasis from leadership to policy for two reasons.

One is that while the populist phenomenon of Muldoonism draws in support from outside the party, it is not so warmly regarded by traditionalists within it. Critics claim that Mr Muldoon has been too intent in transforming his party into his image. The party hierarchy are confident of securing enough of the middle ground to win, but they are not so sure of the basic 40 per cent of the electorate which normally solidly backs National.

Mr Muldoon's stand on the controversial South African

rugby visit earlier in the year and his performance at the Commonwealth Heads of State Meeting in Melbourne, together with much of his economic performance, have provoked more disquiet inside his party than out of it. A quieter Muldoon appeases these critics.

But there is another reason for the more subdued campaign. The National Party is fighting for its third successive election win on a slogan of growth. Mr Muldoon has been at pains to explain what is meant by the party's think-tank strategy and rebut what he calls its misrepresentation by Labour and Social Credit.

The growth policy of the National Party dominates the campaign. In this the party has seized the initiative. It promises a brave, exciting future built upon five or six large energy-related undertakings. They include aluminium smelters, refineries at Whangarei, power, oil and gas exploitation from the offshore Maui field in Taranaki; a synthetic petrol plant; urea production; and expansion of the existing oil refinery at Whangarei.

Labour and Social Credit are joined in condemning "think big". They claim that such a huge programme will deny investment resources to, and therefore the growth potential of, other private export-oriented industries, notably farming. They also argue that such capital intensive industries will do nothing to relieve the problem of unemployment which Labour is the most

pressing of all issues facing the country.

The findings of the latest opinion poll, show the National Party still comfortably in front and improving. It took 42 per cent of the sample, up two points from September, with Labour up one point at 35 per cent and Social Credit down from 25 per cent to 22.

The state of the parties in the last Parliament was National 50, Labour 40, Social Credit 10.

Mr Muldoon has again criticised Mr Robert Mugabe, repeating his reference to the time the Zimbabwe leader spent in the jungle and linking him with the shooting down of an Air Rhodesia aircraft in 1979 in which a New Zealand family died.

Mr Muldoon first attacked Mr Mugabe, describing him as someone who had been in the jungle for years shooting people at the heads of commonwealth conference last month.

In a radio talkback in New Plymouth yesterday Mr Muldoon was asked why he had insulted Mr Mugabe. Mr Muldoon replied: "I have mixed feelings about Mr Mugabe and I don't think many New Zealanders would condone some of the things Mr Mugabe has done over recent times."

"I have got to say this, that he does seem—or did seem—to be making an effort to bring whites and black races and various tribes together, until quite recently. Now he is saying he is moving toward a one party state and I don't like that one little bit."

Namibia party trying to shed its image as Pretoria 'stooge'

From Michael Hootsby, Johannesburg, Nov 18

The Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), the main internal political party in Namibia (South-West Africa), is making a belated and possibly self-destructive effort to rid itself of its image as a 'stooge' of the South African Government.

As the latest western initiative aimed at bringing independence to Namibia has gathered momentum, relations between South Africa and its Namibian protégé have worsened and the DTA's leaders have begun falling out with each other.

These strains are strong evidence that South Africa is serious about seeking a settlement in Namibia, and that the DTA is for the first time convinced that it can no longer rely on Pretoria to shield it from an open electoral contest with Swapo, (the South-West Africa People's Organisation).

Formed in the mid-1970s, the DTA is an alliance of 11 parties, each representing one of the ethnic groups (including whites) in Namibia.

The DTA's structure has undermined its multiracial pretensions, which are widely seen to the traditional apartheid emphasis on racial differences.

Mr Frederick Kuvumba, the DTA's black president, is pressing for a single party, thereby shedding the need to maintain ethnic balance, no consequence of this would be likely to be a bigger role in the direction of the DTA for the whites, who constitute 47 per cent of Namibia's population.

Mr Kalangua is an Ovambo. Ovambo is the main political group in the north of the DTA is to stand any chance in a free election against Swapo it must attract some Ovambo support and a bigger share of the black vote elsewhere.

Mr Kuvumba has been called, however, to give majority support at a meeting of the DTA caucus in Windhoek, this week.

Mr Kalangua said he was disappointed though he denied there was any danger of the DTA's breaking apart.

Even more damaging to its attempts to win black support is the fact that, although it dominates Namibia's National Assembly by virtue of its victory in the 1978 elections (which were boycotted by Swapo), it works through a South African-controlled constitution.

Whites, through an ethnically-biased local government structure, have been able to prevent desegregation of state schools and hospitals and such amenities as libraries and swimming-baths. The DTA has, however, been able to abolish some apartheid measures, such as the ban on racial intermarriage in residential areas and on racially-mixed marriages.

Mr Dirk Mudge, chairman of the DTA and of the Namibia Council of Ministers, said last night that his party was growing increasingly impatient and frustrated with South Africa's failure to respond to requests for changes in the Namibian constitution that would enable his administration to press ahead with the complete dismantling of apartheid.

The credibility of this complaint is somewhat vitiated by the fact that the DTA constitution is the offspring of the apartheid constitution and has only come to find it objectionable. In their defence, the DTA leaders say white hardliners are misusing the constitution in ways they had not foreseen.

Although all racial discrimination must be eliminated under the terms of United Nations resolutions before international-supervised elections can be held in Namibia, South Africa appears reluctant to accede to the DTA's request to speed fear of a white backlash against the settlement process.

Gerulaitis pulls out of tourney

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg, Nov 18

Vitas Gerulaitis has followed his fellow American, Jimmy Connors, in withdrawing from an international tournament opening here next week.

The South African sporting world has been shocked by the decision of Connors, the world's third-ranked tennis player, to pull out because of death threats to him and his family.

Poland's leading player, Wojtek Fibak, has also pulled out from the \$150,000 tournament, which is being sponsored by the Sigma motor company.

Gerulaitis apparently decided to withdraw after being told by Connors of the threats. As far as is known he has not been directly threatened himself.

Mr Keith Brebner, who is organising the tournament on behalf of Sigma and the South African Tennis Union, said he believed Fibak was "basically pressurised out of the tournament" by the Polish Government.

Mr Brebner, leader of Connors' decision yesterday in a telephone call from Israel where the American is playing in an exhibition tournament, said he would love to come to South Africa.

Connors is reported to have said: "but I am not prepared to take the risk after receiving a number of letters and phone calls threatening my life."

Hitherto, international tennis has been less affected by the apartheid controversy than other sports, and Mr Brebner's success in attracting such big names as Connors, Gerulaitis and Fibak has been trumpeted in the South African press as a major setback for the organisers of the sports "blacklist".

By ill-chance a third American player, Brian Teacher, who is number seven in world rankings, has also been dropped on the drop out of next week's tournament because of an ankle injury.

Nuns face currency wrangle

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Nov 18

Mother Teresa, the Nobel peace prize winner and great missionary, face investigation for alleged breaches of Italy's currency laws. Official letters informing them that an investigation is in hand have gone to more than 70 people and this is seen as a challenge to the status of the Vatican Bank.

Mother Teresa and the others under investigation collect money to support their work among the sick and needy, and these contributions are lodged in the Vatican's bank. This institution, called the Institute for Works, periodically criticized but in this case it has found plenty of defenders.

According to a recent Bank of Italy circular, it must be regarded as a 'foreign' bank. One of the principal reasons for the possession of a small piece of sovereign territory was to give them freedom in the movement of money. This freedom is challenged if the judiciary is allowed to proceed against Mother Teresa and the others on charges of currency offences.

The point under dispute is whether the Vatican's bank has full financial autonomy. A recent case supports its freedom of action. On May 12 an unnamed Italian judge, sitting at the Fluminio Airport, decided on carrying the equivalent of £400 in Deutsche marks and Swiss francs which she intended taking with her to Switzerland to pay for her services.

Her husband was a high official at the Vatican. She had drawn the money from the Vatican bank. An inquiry was opened but the Rome public prosecutor has now asked that of a commission of experts. The grounds that no offence is involved in moving money from one foreign country to another.

Solidarity access to news media discussed

By Roger Boyce

The Polish Government and Solidarity, the independent trade union, have shelved detailed discussion on the controversial issues of local council elections and the formation of a national coalition in favour of attempting broad agreement on other politically sensitive subjects.

After some 10 hours of negotiation—the first such talks for three months—the two sides agreed to break into four working groups to discuss the control of the economy, Solidarity's access to the state-controlled news media, ways of resolving local industrial disputes and a winter crisis of energy supplies.

The working group on the media began discussions yesterday and the other three are expected to start today.

But the two most sensitive points of conflict between Solidarity and the Polish United Workers' (Communist) Party are not to be discussed until next week at the earliest. The first concerns Solidarity's demand for free local elections, allowing non-party members to contest them against Communist Party nominees.

The Solidarity branch in Cracow said yesterday that it had followed the example of the Silesian branch in calling on its members to draw up lists of candidates for local elections. Even more disturbing for the party, Solidarity's Cracow branch made it clear that it would work in conjunction with Rural Solidarity, the private farmers' independent union,

thus creating a broad alliance of non-Communist interests.

The other related problem is that of forming a national alliance, institutionalising Solidarity's role in some way.

The Government is ready to establish a "Front of National Understanding", involving other parties as well as Solidarity. But Solidarity is suspicious of the Front and fears that its interests could be over-ruled unless it is given full partnership in a "socio-economic council" with joint control of the economy.

This subject will be touched on in the working group on economic control but involves such a central ideological question as the leading role of the Communist Party in Polish society and a decisive outcome seems, therefore, unlikely.

Even the working groups dealing with relatively uncontroversial issues, such as access to the news media—are in danger of coming up with proposals that in the final analysis may prove to be unenforceable.

The Solidarity negotiators make no secret of their basic goal: to secure basic local disputes, but there is no guarantee that these will be observed in times of tension.

The working group expected by Solidarity sources to produce the most realistic result is that involving joint approach to the immediate food distribution problems this winter. Ideological considerations will take second place in these negotiations.

Kampala panic as soldier fires on new police unit

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, Nov 18

Shooting broke out in central Kampala today when members of a new special police unit, wearing camouflaged uniforms, were fired on by an Army private who mistook them for anti-government guerrillas.

Uganda radio had earlier broadcast announcements, telling Kampala residents not to fear the special unit men in their new uniforms. "They are not a foreign force, they are your brothers", the announcement said.

Panic broke out, however, when the unit called in several

hundred reinforcements who began firing in the air, as civilians scattered in alarm. Some civilians said they had been fired on, but there appeared to be no serious injuries.

A tense situation has been created in parts of the Kampala area by intensive searches for anti-government guerrillas, some of whom are operating from secret camps only 10 miles from the centre of Kampala.

The searches follow publication in British newspapers of accounts of the guerrillas' activities, which have annoyed Uganda Government leaders.

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Multi voltage. No-tangle swivel cord. Complete with travel case. Normal Price £6.99
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French plan to curb salt pollution of the Rhine

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Nov 18

Eighteen million tons of waste are discharged every year into the Rhine, from Switzerland to the North Sea. The river has become the sewer of Europe, and the countries bordering it have been battling unsuccessfully with the problem on and off since 1946.

For the past few years, France has been one of the principal polluters through the salt waste from the potash mines in Alsace, which alone account for one third of the excessive salinisation of the Rhine waters. Dutch horticulturalists, market gardeners and fishermen regard themselves as its main victims.

The ministers of the environment of France, West Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Luxembourg, who met in Paris yesterday, came for the first time in five years close to a compromise solution to this persistent problem which has strong political overtones in the countries concerned because of the electoral impact of environmentalists.

M. Michel Crépeau, the French minister, was also anxious to get his country out of the indefensible legal position which it has been since it signed the Bonn convention on the pollution of the Rhine

in 1975, but subsequently refused to ratify it.

The convention provided for the creation of a Rhine Commission to study the waste of the potash mines, an operation partly financed by the other four countries to the tune of 92m francs (about £10m). This sum has been paid, but France did not deliver the goods because of the violent opposition of Alsace MPs and the ecologists, who feared the risk of pollution of underground water resources.

M. Crépeau believes he has found a way of enabling France to honour its obligations in the matter and of meeting the objections of the Alsatian population. Subject to the findings of a commission of neutral experts, France will agree to inject nearly one million tons of salt waste a year, deep under the Alsatian soil and at the same time to open a salt mine in Alsace with a capacity of producing 500,000 tons a year, which would boost the salt and recycle more brines from the potash mines.

The Alsatians have been clamouring for such a mine though on a bigger scale. It remains to be seen whether they will accept the compromise solution.

THE ARTS

Television
French
leave

If the next of kin of even a fraction of First World War casualties had been half as insistent on knowing what had happened to their loved ones as Eileen in BBC1's *Wilfred and Eileen* it would, I imagine, have clogged up the War Office and shortened the war by a couple of years. Mind you, we would have lost, but you cannot have everything.

In the second helping of this treacle pudding we saw Wilfred bound for the front and writing furiously to Eileen all the time. This correspondence is interrupted when he is wounded in the head on his way to help his batman. Neither, I noticed, was wearing a tin helmet but maybe that is the way it was.

Even in wartime they expected more of the Post Office in those one-tier postage days than we can now because, when Eileen has not heard for six days, she is off to the regiment to say "What about Wilfred?" to an officer who is so polite he must surely have known Daddy was something high up in the Home Office.

When she does find out that Wilfred is wounded she is off to the Secretary of State and is soon en route to Boulogne to seek out Wilfred in hospital. She finds him, of course, and though the hospital is simply crowded with wounded, she appears to be the only visiting relative from Blighty.

Wilfred is not speaking very well but she does get him to write "home" on a piece of paper which indicated to one doctor at least that she is good for him, and she just smashed through to the others. It is agreed with bad grace by the C.O. — a real Old Contemptible — that she can take her husband and the risk.

So that is where we are. Wilfred (Christopher Guard) did not have a lot to do in this episode, understandably after being wounded. But she did manage a noise from his bed of pain which sounded like the first syllable of "Eileen".

Judi Bowker, who plays the latter, had quite a lot to do and, at all times beautifully and expensively attired by the wardrobe department, looked frail and implausible doing it. Actually, actually, this love story has substance and validity having been dropped for the duration.

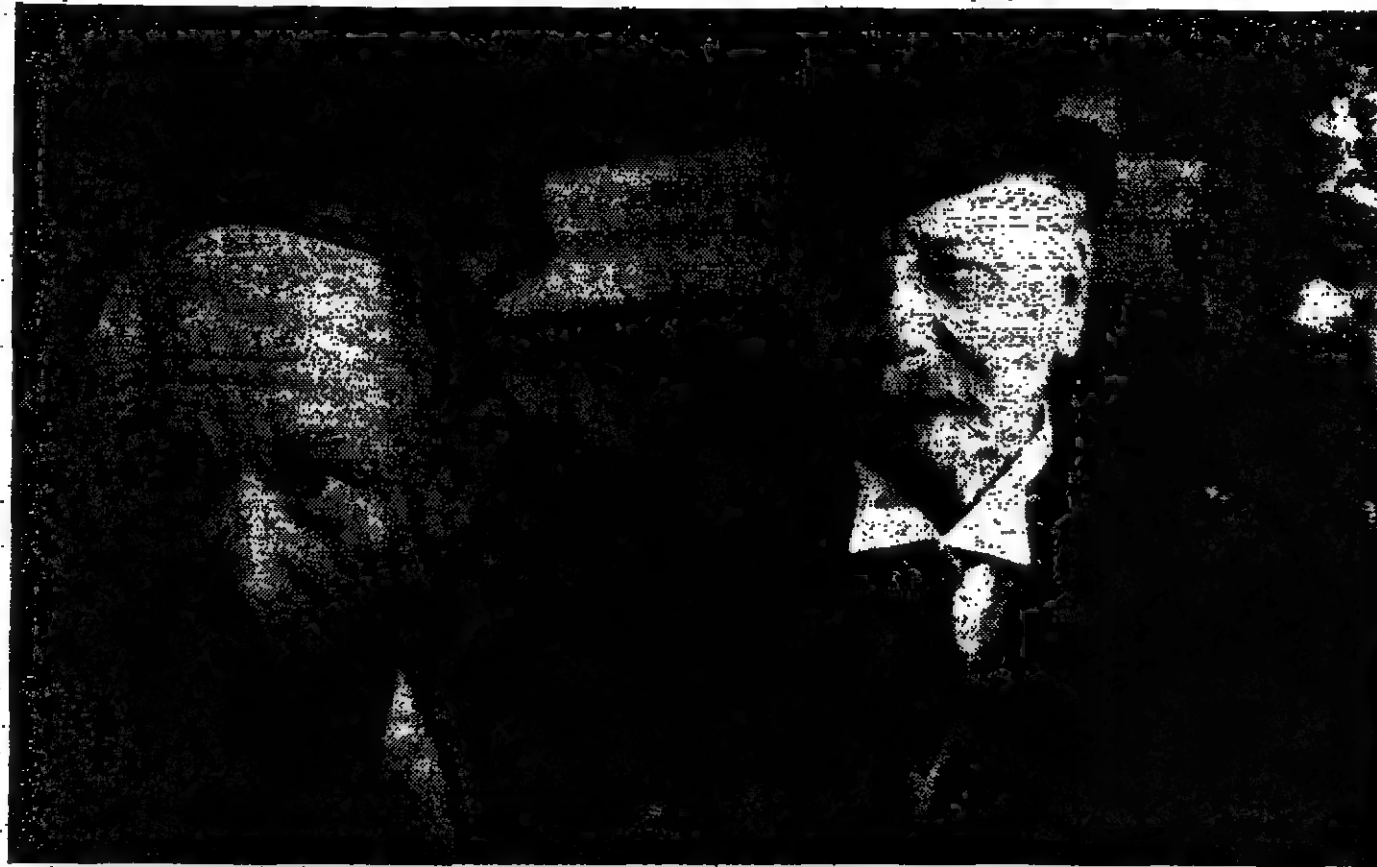
Dennis Hackett

The London Film Festival ends on Sunday with Christopher Miles's screen biography of D. H. Lawrence, *Priest of Love*. John Preston meets the director.

There can be few directors who have sacrificed so much for a film as Christopher Miles, whose screen biography of D. H. Lawrence, *Priest of Love*, closes the London Film Festival on Sunday. It took him ten years to get the project off the ground and he came perilously close to bankruptcy in the process. He was sustained through numerous setbacks by what he describes as "a healthy obsession" with Lawrence which dates back to his teens. "My father encouraged me to read him. He was a great Lawrence enthusiast and collected first editions of his books. I can't say I was immediately bowled over. I certainly liked what I read but it wasn't until much later that I really began to get intrigued."

At the time Miles was far more interested in trying to become a film director, an ambition his parents were determined to thwart. With both their daughters, Sarah and Vanessa, at drama school, the last thing they wanted was for their son to embark on an equally dangerous career. Miles was told to put such foolish thoughts behind him and sent up to Corby to start in the family steelworks. He stuck it out for four months and then left for Paris where he was accepted into the university film school.

Back in England, having completed the course, Miles made *Six Sided Triangle*, a short film starring his sister Sarah which was nominated for an Oscar. His first feature film, *Up Jumped a Swagman*, with Frank Field, did not win him any prizes, but he more than redeemed himself with his next venture, *The Virgin and the Gypsy*, an adaptation of the Lawrence novella. It was while researching background material for *The Virgin and the Gypsy* that Miles really



At last, nothing but the best: John Gielgud (right) with Christopher Bruce directing

caught the Lawrence bug in earnest.

"The more I read about him, the more fascinated I became. What first impressed me was his refusal to compromise. He really did practice what he preached and couldn't care less what people thought about him. I found his analysis of the relationship between men and women quite superb and his philosophy also struck a chord in me. He believed that modern man had become mechanized in thought, religion and sex, and had somehow lost touch with the most important things in life. By looking into the fundamental urges and beliefs of mankind he felt we could discover those essential forces that had got lost along the way. It was then that I first started thinking about making a film about Lawrence's life."

The biggest stumbling block, of course, was money. Miles decided that he should concentrate on the last eight years of Lawrence's life and felt that the only way to make a proper job of it was to incorporate a lot of Lawrence's

own material into the script. This involved buying up the film rights from the Lawrence estate, who were not at all keen on the idea and named a price he could not possibly afford. Forced to abandon his plans, Miles then tried to make a film of *The Plumed Serpent*, one of Lawrence's later novels, only to find that just as he was about to start shooting, his backer had pulled out of the deal. By this time Miles, not surprisingly, was close to despair and must have been wondering whether he and Lawrence were really intended for one another. But finally his luck began to turn.

Lawrence Pollinger, the head of the estate, was succeeded by his son Gerald, who proved to be more sympathetic to a film biography and dropped the asking price accordingly. Nevertheless it cost Miles everything he possessed and he was still faced with the prospect of having to raise the five million dollar budget he required. To his astonishment the Texas oil millionaire Stanley Seeger, who had never invested in a film

before, stepped forward and offered to put up the whole amount. From then on it was comparatively easy. Ian McKellen, whom Miles had always wanted to play Lawrence, became available and so did Janet Suzman, who plays his wife Frieda von Richthofen. Penelope Keith and John Gielgud were cast in supporting roles and there was an unexpected bonus when Aya Gardner, who had previously announced that she never wanted to make a film again, turned out to be a Lawrence fan and agreed to play Mabel Dodge Luhan, the wealthy American patroness who invited the Lawrences to come and live with her in Mexico.

Miles describes the film as a "warts and all" portrait and hopes that, despite their various failings, audiences will find the story of Lawrence and Frieda's life together an inspiring one. "I've tried to show the nature of their relationship and in particular the enormous give and take that went on between them. They fought

like tigers but they always came together again and saw it through to the end. Even after Lawrence died Frieda couldn't bear to be separated from him and she carried his ashes around with her wherever she went. Mabel Dodge Luhan wanted the ashes to be scattered to the wind but Frieda wasn't having any of it. She ended up by mixing them with concrete so that no one could take them away from her. That concrete block now forms part of the Lawrence shrine in Taos and Frieda is buried very modestly beside him. It's terribly rare to find that strength of feeling between two people and I think there's an example there for all of us."

In view of his past experience Miles is understandably wary of talking about his future plans but he is hoping to direct a contemporary satire set in the Caribbean. Has he now finally got Lawrence out of his system? "Yes," he says, "emphatically. You look doubtful? Well, let's say that I think it's about time we gave each other a rest."

Interview

A healthy obsession with Lawrence

Theatre

Before Chekhov

All's Well that Ends Well

Stratford

Apart from Jonathan Miller's denuded version for the Greenwich Theatre, this seems to be the first major revival of *All's Well* since the last Stratford production of 14 years ago, and, like last year's *Timon*, it comes before the public unbarnaced with stage tradition; other than the low opinion of successive ages.

The story of the lowly Helena's marriage with the reluctant Count Bertram, and his prompt desertion of the "dark house and the detested wife" is one which, to put it mildly, echoes the play's truism that life is "mingled yam, good and bad together". And if any key is to be found for the play, it is bound to be one that reflects the half-tones and moral compromises of the imperfect characters who, as Johnson said, are finally "dismissed to happiness".

Trevor Nunn chose to give the game away in advance by describing this comedy as "Shakespeare's most Chekhovian play". True enough, the first sight we get of the Rosillion estate suggests the opening of *The Cherry Orchard* — a glass and metal-work conservatory (by John Gunter) with a large Edwardian family and their staff hurriedly preparing to take leave of the departing Bertram, with the love-sick Helena, black-dressed like Marsha with keys at her waist, sitting dejectedly by the Countess as Bertram hovers at the door eager for his getaway.

Rosillion, as the show develops, it takes on the fairy-tale character of Belmont in relation to the outer world settings of Paris and Florence. Leaves bestrew the ground, a melancholy nocturnal drift from within, as Peggy Ashcroft, as the somberly benevolent Countess, wanders outside in her mittens, carrying a rug for affectionate conversation with Geoffrey Hutchings's First-like Lavache.

In the first half of the production Rosillion lingers on as a ground bass to the events elsewhere; especially in contrast to the full dazzle of the French court scenes after Helena has effected her miraculous royal cure. The court are discovered in mid-polka, shortly followed by a second dance which falters

and stops for the appearance of the monarch (John Franklyn-Robbins) restored from a wheelchair to his feet and eager to lead the virgin physician on to the floor. The choice of bridegroom carries on the spirit of the ballroom, with a game of musical chairs for Helena encircled by a steadily dwindling ring of eligible males until her choice falls on the reluctant hero.

Up to this point the production has the steady procession of a perfectly thought-out fugue; but at the moment of the enforced marriage Bertram also has a choice to make as an actor: either he tries to reject Helena on class grounds or as a sexual partner.

Mike Gwyllim, hitherto masked behind embarrassed smiles and adolescent evasiveness, comes absolutely clean at this moment. He recoils from her like a loathsome food, uncontrollably vomiting up his refusal to let the King's face. It is a powerful moment, but it also makes nonsense of the final reunion.

Thereafter we move to the Florentine camp, with a brass band patrolling the stage in succession to the Parisian ball guests, and the apparition of Harriet Walter's Helena as a Red Cross nurse. She may be a doctor's daughter, but this idea strikes me as a desperate manoeuvre to keep the production on its original course, with no help from Shakespeare who isolates his heroine on the margin of the action, which has now moved on to the unmasking of Parolles.

In terms of poetic imagery it may be true to say that Parolles embodies the quality of masquerade that pervades the entire text (everybody except Bertram sees through him immediately); but the stage experience is that of witnessing the development of a raw, cruel subplot tonally and thematically unrelated to that promised in the first half of the play.

Stephen Moore plays him as a blazer-sporting loudmouth, loaded with War Office surplus medals, and crumbling deliciously in the mock-interrogation scene. His relationship with Bertram is also carefully built up in the first half, as between a confident older man and an arrogant but impressionable juvenile. Whenever they meet they hug. But, after their friendship has collapsed, there is no reclaiming the world of the opening scenes.

Irving Wardle

Dances of Love and Death

Sadler's Wells

Robert Cohan's *Dances of Love and Death* has clearly been brushed up a good deal since its Edinburgh Festival premiere, not least in some details of Norberto Chiezza's designs. Lucky the company nowadays that can afford to have second thoughts on an ambitious production; it is something that ought to happen far more often, and thanks are due to Tennant Caledonian for the unusual generosity of their sponsorship.

All the same, the biggest single improvement comes simply from transferring the show to the Sadler's Wells stage from the makeshift circumstances of an Edinburgh gymnasium: a point that should reinforce the arguments being advanced on all sides for better facilities for presenting dance and other forms of theatre.

An introductory note by Cohan in the programme (also new, I think, since Edinburgh) warns us not to take the work too seriously. There would, I am afraid, be little likelihood of that. Cohan writes of concentrating each of the five tales he has treated to their "irreducible and absolutely crucial facts". It seems to me that he has sometimes gone further than that, leaving the spectator's prior knowledge to fill in a lot of the narrative.

So the interest has to lie mainly in brief details of action, flashing almost as rapidly across the eye as the captions which are now given on an electric newscaster hung above the stage. The most sustained passage of choreographic interest is the

Dance



Cool and smooth: Charlotte Kirkpatrick, Michael Small

scene for Cathy and Heathcliff, passionately danced by Kate Harrison and Christopher Bannerman. Luckily — and this is the work's other strength — the dancing by the soloists is fine throughout. The supporting group make little impact, because what Cohan has given them is conventional showbiz routines, even though they have the evening's best music.

Michael Small's cool, composed line as he ventures through a human thicket to reach his Sleeping Beauty is especially notable, and Charlotte Kirkpatrick brings a smooth graciousness to their subsequent duet.

John Percival

Two premieres

The London Festival Ballet are to give the world premiere of the new one-act *Swan Lake*, based on a story by Roald Dahl, at Bristol on November 30 as part of their two-week season beginning on November 25. The work has been choreographed by a company member, Trevor Wood, and designed by Michael Annals, with music by Shostakovich.

The highlight of the company's five-week season at the London Coliseum which starts on April 26 next year will be the world premiere of John Field's production of *Swan Lake*, with designs by Carl Toms. The production, which has a gala opening on May 25, has been helped by £95,000 from Barclays Bank Limited.

Devilish epic

Robert Browning: *The Ring and the Book*, edited by Richard D. Altick (Penguin English Poets, £10); Robert Browning: *The Poems*, edited by John Peck (Penguin, £10); *The Poems*, edited by Thomas J. Collins, two volumes (Penguin English Poets, £10 each).

Anyone who has finally lost patience with BBC 2's *Browning* might profitably turn to Browning's *The Ring and the Book*. This is what a real master can make of devilish Italian costume melodrama. Browning's source was an "old yellow book", part printed pamphlet and part printed manuscript, which he found in the junk stalls of Florence one June morning in 1860.

The crucified sinner, covers a part of his life, when hearts beat hard. And brains, high-blooded, ticked two centuries since.

The book told of a Roman murder trial of 1689 — a genuine "cause célèbre" involving a lecherous husband, a whitewashed wife, a prancing priest, a pack of lies and love-letters, an elopement and adultery (the Grand Peripeteia), and three singularly bloody killings with Genoese soldiers (the blades booked back with teeth for tearing flesh). The excitement and the alliteration is instantly contagious.

From these peculiarly raw materials, Browning fashioned — in the terrible black years following Elizabeth's death in 1861 — a truly remarkable blank-verse poem in 12 books. It has been called the last full-scale poetic epic in English, a real challenge to the prose of Dickens. It remains remarkable and astonishingly readable for several reasons. Browning used his mature technique of dramatic monologue, of writing from within the persons of his characters ("Porphyria's Lover" 1836; "Bishop Blougram's Apology" 1855), to tell the same story from nine different viewpoints, thus presenting nine different and conflicting versions of the "truth".

The sinister husband Count Guido, the dying wife Pompilia, the priest, the legal counsellors, the onlookers, the scandal-mongers, and even the wise old Pope, thus speak to us directly with their picturesque pleas. It was a technique taken up by Wilkie Collins in *The Moonstone*, and explored by many modern writers since, such as Pound,

Poetry paperbacks

Elton, Lawrence Durrell and John Fowles.

Though this daring method, Browning transformed a blowy domestic melodrama into a real investigation into the nature of fact, fiction, and human bias and prejudice. The subtle distinction between motive, act, and intention (more than ever questioned in our present law courts), are brilliantly displayed as each witness appeals to us in turn. The complex sexual relationship between the fifty-year-old Guido and the seventeen-year-old Pompilia is moved gradually and deftly to the centre of the poem (Guido is allowed to speak twice, the second time to his death-cry: "confession" — of a sort).

In the end we are given a view of the relativity of human and historical truth that is rarely associated with Victorian psychology, or poetry. It seems contemporary for all the tapestry and daggers. Most interesting of all ("tremendously interesting," said Henry James) is the fact revealed by Professor Altick's extensive notes, that Browning himself falsified the documentary truth — in pale Pompeii's favour, of course, identifying her perhaps with Elizabeth.

Womanliness and wifehood: opening. Its milk-white pallor, chasing, suffused With love and there a tint and hint of flame. Desire, the legendary love to find. Read on, read on.

Penguin have also issued, in two massively splendid pages each, an entirely new scholarly edition of all Browning's other poems. Four volumes might have been more elegant, but the editorial machinery is excellent, and the copy-texts are taken from impeccable sources, including, I see, a grave-stone in Saint Mary's churchyard, Barnsley, Yorkshire.

Richard Holmes

Homing in

Scars Upon My Heart: Women's Factory and Verse of the First World War, selected by Catherine Reilly (Virago, £3.75).

This story of women's poetry is not so immediately dramatic as the familiar one of the soldier poets, the patriotic fervour soured by bitterness that produced the acrid poetry of the trenches. Indeed the male poets' indignation at the women at home is well known because of Wilfred Owen's savage answer to Jessie Pope's jingoistic "The Call" included here. Yet the emotional climate in the early years of the war confused both sexes, as Iris Tree

records: "we dare not weep who must be brave in battle". The stress of anxiety and loss created a longing for simple certainties which it is easy for later generations to misunderstand. Both men and women sought to invest their experience with a significance that would make it bearable, and it is interesting and moving to see the women grappling with the received notions of honour, duty and sacrifice that were increasingly opposed by feelings of loss and grief.

As Judith Kazantzis points out in her introduction it is crucial to comprehend the "half-altruistic, half-romantic" emotions charged with patriotism and a longing to be of service underpinned with religious beliefs that affected both sexes. Women did not have the possibility of direct participation in battle which always offered an acceptable path to the men even when they had lost faith in the war itself, and it is not surprising that many of them embraced the traditional role of bearing pain on their menfolk's behalf, as in Vera Brittain's poem to her brother beginning "Your battle-wounds are scars upon my heart...". Many women identified the soldiers' sufferings with those of Christ: (as indeed did Wilfred Owen) and Mary H. Henderson invokes "Mary Mother of God/All women tread where thy feet have trod".

The physical proximity that fuelled the homoerotic impulse in much of the poetry from the trenches also crystallized for Sassoon and Owen their anger at the barbarity of war which transformed their attitude and their poetry: that anger was often directed at the conventions of love and sacrifice, "the stained stones kissed by the English dead". That physical contact was denied to the women and becomes available to them again as they are increasingly called upon to care for the wounded.

The covers on the screen are red. The counterpanes are white and green. He might have lived and loved and died. But now he's done for at nineteen.

As do their male counterparts the women also begin to question the ultimate ends of war. Edith Sitwell, Marie Stopes and Margaret Postgate Cole.

So our memories are only hopes that came to nothing. We are left alone like old men; we should be dead.

Most of these writers have moments of insight peculiarly their own, transcending any deficiencies inevitable in such anthologies. His son comes in like a ghost through the door. He'll be ready, maybe, for the next big war.

Jean Liddiard

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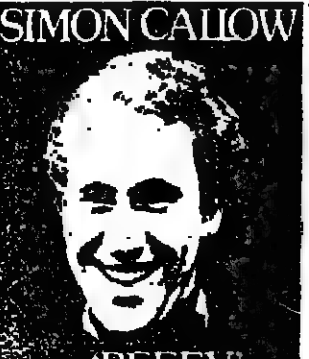
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Debrett's débâcle
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fire at Debrett's, chronicler of
noble heritage, continued
in the High Court yester-
day. Debrett's: Peerage Ltd, the

Peter Watson

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MR REAGAN'S PEACE MOVEMENT

President Reagan has only recently turned his attention to the problems of the alliance, the worries of his allies, and the criticism that he lacks a coherent policy towards the Soviet Union. He has been preoccupied with domestic affairs and has seemed comfortable with his pre-election assumption that the world is a simple place requiring little but a reassertion of American power to put it to rights. As a result his Administration has stumbled badly in foreign affairs, riven by bitter internal disagreements which burst forth from time to time in contradictory or ill-considered statements, while the President himself has been flummoxed when the complexities of the real world have been thrown at him in press conferences.

His speech yesterday was the beginning of a serious attempt to repair the damage and bring a sense of direction into relations with the Soviet Union. He has now formally endorsed four sets of east-west negotiations: on theatre nuclear forces in Europe, which will open in Geneva on November 30; on strategic arms reductions (now known as "Start", son of Salt), which will begin in the spring; on conventional forces in Europe, which have been limping along in Vienna for many years; and on surprise attack, a reference to the possible conference on military confidence building measures now being discussed in Madrid as part of the follow-up to the Helsinki agreement of 1975.

For a President who came into office profoundly critical of past negotiations on arms control and very sceptical of almost any attempts to do business with the Russians, and who appointed some of the bitterest critics of Salt II to senior jobs in the Arms

Control Agency, this is fairly remarkable. One hesitates to call it a U-turn because there is a tenuous line of consistency in the argument that past attempts at arms control were insufficient rather than wholly misguided, but in terms of atmosphere and approach yesterday's speech marks a significant change, marred though it is by some rather naive debating points.

The governments of western Europe deserve a share of the credit. They have mounted a sustained effort to bring home to President Reagan the damage that was being done to the alliance. They have had to contend with huge areas of ignorance among the new people in Washington, and with powerful actions which regarded any European criticism as evidence of disloyalty, neutralism, pacifism, ingratitude and other sins deserving only contempt. Officials in the State Department who tried to convey a different picture have sometimes felt intimidated to the point of silence by pressures from political appointees in various parts of the Administration. The President has seemed largely unaware of what was going on, and the National Security Council has been downgraded to a point where it could not play its usual coordinating role, which has been a good thing on balance because the quality of its advice is low.

The situation can improve if the President sustains the interest and concern which yesterday's speech reflects. For far too long the Soviet Union has been allowed to enjoy a monopoly in the production of "peace proposals". Now President Reagan has challenged the Soviet monopoly by putting the so-called "zero option" squarely on the table for the Geneva negotiations, together with a demand for real cuts at the

strategic level when talks on that subject start. He has clearly done the right thing. It is a good political move in that it shows readiness to meet the demand of the European protest movements that none of the proposed new weapons should be deployed in western Europe. It puts the Russians on the spot by challenging them to remove their new mobile triple-warhead SS-20 missiles and the older SS-4s and SS-5s.

Militarily it is somewhat more controversial. It does not mention the shorter range Soviet missiles, the SS-22 and SS-23. Nor does it explain how if the Russians were miraculously to accept, the west would plug the gap which the Pershing II and cruise missiles were to fill. As Mr Reagan himself points out, they are supposed to be a "vital link" between short-range and strategic weapons. However, the link could be more easily restored by other means, such as sea-based missiles, if the SS-20s were dismantled, so the military price for a political gain would not be excessive.

The next stage is for President Reagan to persuade both the Russians and his own allies that he is not just indulging in political theatre but is serious and realistic about negotiation. It will take considerable time to dispel the accumulated scepticism, for which his own election campaign is much to blame. There is, however, a fair chance now that pressures on his own budget, continuing pressure from his allies, and his own gradual discovery of the need to reduce the dangers of conflict with the Russians will push him in the right direction. Whether the Russians respond is another question, but at least if they do not it will not always be Washington that stands accused of raising tension.

MR BRITTON'S LAME EXCUSE

Mr Leon Brittan's first major speech on the government's plans for tax reform yesterday can only be described as a disappointment, not least to his own supporters. Few governments can have come in with such high hopes for a sweeping reform and simplification of Britain's cumbersome and inefficient system of raising revenue. Few governments, in other fields, have proved as ready to take on the vested interests of officials in trying to get reforms through. Yet the tenor of the Financial Secretary's speech was defensive, declaring that public expenditure restraints made reform expensive for the moment and that computerisation of PAYE in the latter part of the decade would delay plans for any fundamental reforms.

These are not wholly fanciful reasons for delay. But they are not the sole reasons. The hard fact, which Mr Brittan was reluctant to admit, is that far from reducing the burden of average taxation, the Government has increased it. And the complexity of the payments which the average citizen has to make, expensive although it is to administer, has helped the Government to disguise this fact. Top rates of tax have come down. But the real burden of taxation has not.

This cut in the spending power of the personal sector has been brought about by the fact that prices and real levels of taxation have risen faster

than incomes, and a major contributory factor to the increase in taxation levels has been the rise in National Insurance contributions.

In April, 1979 an employee earning the average wage of £101 a week paid NI contributions at the rate of 6.5 per cent of his salary. Today the percentage deduction is 7.75 per cent. For those earning above the average the situation is worse since earnings have risen over the period by 38 per cent whilst the upper income threshold below which NI contributions are levied has risen by 48 per cent. A higher proportion of income is now being taxed.

Disappointment with the Government's failure to reduce taxation will have been compounded when Mr Brittan turned to the Government's efforts to economise and streamline the taxation system. He reasonably made the point that the cost of a fundamental reform of the tax system can be very high, and was able to claim that significant economies have been achieved in cutting Revenue staffing levels by 14,000 or 15 per cent. However, having won the battle with the Revenue over implementation of computerisation, the Government's supporters must be disappointed that Mrs Thatcher is not prepared to follow this reform through to its logical conclusion.

Though the initial cost might be considerable, it makes little sense to dismiss

the possibilities of the substantial long-term cuts in expenditure that could be achieved by implementing the Tory party's own proposals for a tax credit system, admirably expounded by Anthony Barber, the then Chancellor, and Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Social Security, in their Green Paper of 1972.

No-one imagines that this is a simple task, but one first step in this direction could be to recognise National Insurance contributions for what they are — disguised taxation — and merge the contribution system (though not necessarily payments).

Revenue officials see few complications over collection in such a switch. The savings in staff at the Department of Health and Social Security are estimated to be around 8,000 to 9,000, out of a total of some 60,000, mostly at the Newcastle computer centre but some at local DHSS offices.

If the Government were to take this first step towards rationalising the tax system it would fulfil one of its more important electoral pledges. But it would also crystallise the vague perception that we are all worse off into a hard reality that for the average family, real levels of taxation are now more than 9 per cent higher than when this Government took office. This is presumably one bullet on which only the bravest of politicians would be prepared to bite.

MR MOLYNEUX'S GOOD SENSE

Mr Prior's attendance at the funeral of the Rev Robert Bradford was a brave and respectful act. The treatment he received from crowd and congregation outside and inside the church disgraced the occasion and dishonoured the dead. It is hard to believe that Mr Prior's bearing will not have improved the opinion in which he is held in the province.

After the murder of Mr Bradford the Secretary of State's first thoughts on the crucial issue of policing and security did not meet the case. He told the Commons on Monday that the commanders of the police force and the army were satisfied with the measures and resources at their disposal, — information which was what they wanted; and Mr Prior laid much emphasis on keeping calm and on the undoubtedly important condition of retaining or winning the confidence of the Catholic community. The leader of the Unionist party, Mr Molyneux, reflected the clear conviction of Protestant Ulster when he said that that star would not do. The simply death of Mr Bradford was only the latest and most conspicuous of a long series of

murders of off-duty policemen and soldiers; the IRA was making war; life in the border zones was under constant threat; if the people were not better protected they must organize their own protection. Now Mr Prior has responded with action. A Spearhead battalion has been flown in to be deployed in border areas; all police leave has been stopped and administrative duties cut back; and another sixteen anti-terrorist squads are to be formed. That is a beginning.

Mr Molyneux, who is offering unionists prudent leadership, advises them to accept these security moves as an earnest of good intention and to postpone protests, strikes, private mobilization and the rest for a few weeks to see how policy shapes. But the leadership of Protestant Ulster is fractured. Mr John Taylor contradicts his party leader and dismisses the security moves as a sop. The Ulster Defence Association, the main Protestant paramilitary organization, whose spokesman preferred to wait and see immediately after Mr Bradford's murder, still keeps its counsel. Mr Paisley, who is beginning to resemble King

Lear on a stormy night, is calling for a half-day general strike on Monday, threatening to muster his fire-arm-certified, badge-bearing irregulars, and playing with a Third Force of 50,000 Ulstermen directed at the IRA and Mrs Thatcher, between whom he can scarcely any longer distinguish.

If Moderate Ulster unionism is to carry majority opinion behind the good sense of Mr Molyneux it will need help from Ministers above all. It is good to learn therefore that Mr Prior agreed to talks last night with Mr Molyneux and security chiefs about the practicalities of the proposal for an auxiliary civilian organization for local surveillance and the passing of information to the police. Such an organization falls right outside the class of "private armies" which Mr Prior has rightly said will not be tolerated. It could be of use. But more, it gives abled-bodied civilians in the threatened areas a legitimate opportunity to act in the defence of their families and their neighbours, which they have a strong and natural urge to do. It is an idea that Mr Prior and his advisers should consider with keen initial favour.

Governor's protest from a 'penal dustbin'

From the Governor of H M Prison, Wormwood Scrubs

Sir, As the manager of a large penal dustbin I wish to write about the latest proposal of the Home Secretary to reduce the prison population.

I am driven to write as my patience and tolerance are finally exhausted. We have before us the prospective implementation of section 47 of the Criminal Law Act 1977, which would allow courts to suspend between a quarter and three quarters of a sentence of imprisonment of between six months and two years.

The Advisory Council on the Penal System (1978) was extremely doubtful of the efficacy of suspended sentences in reducing the prison population. On part suspended sentences Mr Bryson, the then (1977) Secretary to the Magistrates' Association, echoed similar doubts, as did Mr Brittan, Minister of State in Parliament (1979) and the Home Office's Review of Probation (1981). I have great respect for Mr Whitlaw's integrity and honesty and so I cannot believe that he is satisfied with the present proposal.

From my personal point of view I did not join the Prison Service to manage overcrowded cattle pens, nor did I join to run a prison where the interests of the individuals have to be sacrificed

continually to the interests of the institution, nor did I join to be a member of a service where staff that I admire are forced to run a society that debases.

I am aware of the difficulties that the Home Secretary faces in reducing the prison population, but I find it difficult to understand why, if he genuinely wishes to reduce the prison population, automatic release on licence for short-term prisoners is not introduced. However, for whatever reason, he has not done this. As it is evident that the present uncivilized conditions in prison seem likely to continue and as I find this incompatible with any moral ethic, I wish to give notice that I, as the governor of the major prison in the United Kingdom, cannot for much longer tolerate, either as a professional or as an individual, the inhumanity of the system within which I work.

I am aware that my gesture I would make would all probability be futile, but if I do not stand up I shall be like a political party putting its power before humanity. Yours faithfully, JOHN MCCARTHY, Governor, H M Prison, Wormwood Scrubs, PO Box 757, Du Cane Road, W12. November 17.

University cuts

From Dr G. H. Sloane-Stanley

Sir, It is a very great pity that your most thoughtful leader today (November 18) did not mention the purely monetary dis-economy of the economies demanded of the universities.

As things now are, these "economies" will almost certainly result not in any actual saving of public money, but rather in a substantial net cost to the Revenue, as well as about 55,000 people (mostly under 23) unemployed, by October, 1984.

Their unemployment will cost the Exchequer up to £4,500 a year each in benefits and lost taxes (average cost of unemployment in 1981-82, according to the Institute for Fiscal Studies); it is the addition of this outlay, totalling up to £250m a year for at least three years, to redundancy costs which will turn the expected savings into a deficit outlasting the present Government. Indeed, Sir Keith Joseph would "enhance his reputation as a reflective politician", even more than he could by merely showing the cuts, were he to realise that university education is appreciably cheaper, even in the "driest" monetary sense, than unemployment, and respond by seeking actually to increase our intake of UK students, even at the "cost" of continuing to employ all existing university staff.

Yours faithfully, G. H. SLOANE-STANLEY, Senior Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry, Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, The Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35-43, Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.

From the General Secretary of the Association of University Teachers

Sir, Although one may disagree with opinions expressed in your issue from time to time without responding by letter to you, when a gross mis-statement of fact appears concerning my organization, I feel I must put the record straight.

Mr Jay's leader ("End of the Robbins era", November 18) you begin quite rightly by saying that the Commons debates an Opposition motion on higher education. You then go on to say that the AUT has "laid on a crowd scene for the occasion".

The truth is that the date of the AUT lobby of Parliament was announced in a high regard, was that he was never given a chance to make the CSD an instrument of reform; while I described Sir Ian as a "big, courteous man" whose "discreet and loyal" if Mr Jay regards that as gossip writing, he must lead a very sheltered life.

Lord Fulton has responded in the letters page today (November 17) to Mr Jay's accusation that the Fulton Committee's recommendation to establish the CSD was imposed by Mr Harold Wilson. Mr Jay's argument is based solely on an offhand remark recalled thirteen years later and specifically denied by the person purported to have made it.

Now to report that as fact I do regard as an emanation from the "gossip writing school of political journalism". Yours faithfully, PETER KELLNER, Political Editor, New Statesman, 10 Great Turnstile, WC1.

Historic interviews

From Professor Colonel G. I. A. D. Draper

Sir, Lady Mole is not strictly accurate when she states, (November 7) that "...a fortnight later (after her late husband's statement published in Action on May 9, 1940), habeas corpus was suspended, and Mole was arrested".

The writ of habeas corpus was not suspended until the First World War. Such had been the practice in former times by legislation generally known as Habeas Corpus Suspension Acts. These Acts prevented recourse to the writ of habeas corpus to obtain a speedy trial or the right to bail in cases of treason and other specified offences. Such Acts did not suspend habeas corpus proceedings in general, eg. the Act of 1794 enacted during the so-called "Reign of Terror".

August and your paper, amongst others, was notified and over the past few weeks has had statements and details from us about the lobby.

Our understanding is that the Opposition only chose higher education as a subject for debate a fortnight ago and we believe it was the massive pressure from our members who are attending the lobby today that determined this choice.

Yours faithfully, LAURIE SAPPER, General Secretary, Association of University Teachers, United House, 1 Pembroke Road, W11. November 18.

SDP and education

From Mr Tyrrell Burgess

Sir, Professor Gold asks today where the Social Democrats stand on two issues in higher education. As you know, the party as a whole is still developing particular policies. Meanwhile, as I have had a set of educational proposals tested at a party conference, I suppose I am the only member with the standing to offer a reply.

Social Democrats can see that a modern society, and economy cannot be based upon ignorance and incompetence. The denial of places in higher education is thus mistaken, the savings illusory.

The party has no proposals to slash a level, though we do not think that higher education should be made to depend upon it. There is so much evidence of people who do well without it, and higher education should offer something to all adults, not just 18 year olds.

At the same time we should like to shift the balance of British education away from knowledge "for its own sake" and towards making and doing, the formulation and solution of problems, capability and creativity of all kinds.

Above all we mean to decentralise responsibility in higher education as elsewhere. The present central administration, for both universities and colleges, forces intelligent and well-meaning people to make fools of themselves at the expense of education and the public.

Yours sincerely, TYRRELL BURGESS, Chairman, Croydon Social Democratic Party, 34 Sandilands, Croydon. November 17.

Foundation of the CSD

From Mr Peter Kellner

Sir, My obituary of the Civil Service Department (November 13) seems to have upset Mr Peter Jay. But for all the venom in his letter (November 16), Mr Jay can cite no specific factual error in my article.

Mr Jay refers to my "extraordinary, unjustified and despicable sneers at the late Lord Armstrong". The implication, that I have written until Lord Armstrong's death to write about him as I do is simply wrong. An extensive critique of Lord Armstrong's stewardship of the CSD, including the circumstances of his departure, appeared in my book *The Civil Service* published in May last year, when Lord Armstrong was still alive.

Mr Jay writes of my "debt to the gossip writing school of political journalism directed at Lord Crobham and Sir Ian Bancroft". Yet my one reference to Lord Crobham, for whom I have

delivered was of short duration. The Home Secretary made a fresh detention order under Regulation 18B and this time his detention was beyond legal challenge.

If an Act of Parliament, the supreme law of the land, provides that a person may be detained without trial, on conditions the rein specified, there is no need for any legislation suspending the remedy of habeas corpus. The "return" made to an application for the writ that the individual is detained pursuant to an Act of Parliament is, if sustained, the most legally efficacious answer to the writ in spite of Blackstone correctly describing it as "The great and efficacious writ in all manner of illegal confinement..." (3, *Commentaries*, 131).

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, G. I. A. D. DRAPER, 16 Southover High Street, Lewes, Sussex.

Premenstrual tension and equality

From Dr Raymond Greene

Sir, In your issue of today's date (November 12) Mr Berlins and Dr Tony Smith have written an admirable summary of the present position of premenstrual tension. They kindly quoted the paper I wrote in 1953 with the assistance of Dr Dalton. It was the first paper on the subject to be published in this country. In it I very tentatively suggested that the cause might be an imbalance in the production by the ovaries of the hormones progesterone and oestradiol.

In those days the tests for these hormones were elementary. Now they are precise. Yet the proof of my hypothesis is still lacking. We may be sure now that a simple deficiency of progesterone is not the basic cause of the trouble. Nevertheless the fact remains, as Dr Dalton has testified before the courts, that treatment with progesterone relieves the condition. This no more proves that progesterone deficiency is the cause of the trouble than that aspirin deficiency is the cause of headaches.

However, the medical profession has been slow in adopting the treatment because we don't understand why it works. This is understandable but wrong-headed. For centuries we have used remedies that we do not understand. Digitalis was used in medieval times, yet it is only recently that we have discovered why it works. Recently we have been forced to admit that the ancient Japanese and Chinese treatment by acupuncture sometimes works, but we do not know why.

The fact is that progesterone works. We are hoping soon to find out why. Meanwhile its use in treatment can eliminate much unhappiness and even crime. Yours obediently, RAYMOND GREENE, 106 Harley Street, W1.

From Miss Patricia Scotland and others

Sir, It is disturbing to read (Letter, November 17) that workers for women's equality are "aghast" because the courts are beginning

to recognize premenstrual problems as being desperately real and not imaginary. A century and a half ago we were still treating epileptics as victims of possession by devils. Until Banting and Best's discovery of insulin we did not know there was such a thing as sugar diabetes.

The courts are presided over by tough, trained minds, used to sifting evidence and to detecting spurious claims. Before Sandie Smith and Christine English were set free unpunished despite having killed, the judges were presented with cold, hard facts. Those facts were that without a supplemental dose of progesterone those women were exposed to the risk that they would take leave of their normal senses. With that dose the risk was eliminated.

One understands the resentment at the way society has treated women throughout history. Women had to win a martyrdom before they won the vote, and incidents of their servitude still linger. But if deterioration to see inequality eliminated involves a mindless refusal to recognize that men and women can be equal while being biologically different, then the fighters do a disservice to their cause.

The miracle of reproducing the human species is principally a female miracle. The hormone patterns in a woman's biology reflect this and it is like refusing to look through Galileo's telescope to deny the evidence that is there before us.

Half the women in the world suffer all manner of physical and mental distortion because of hormonal imbalance, and this can now be corrected. As the courts have seen, the treatment works. This discovery is probably the biggest step towards true equality of men and women that there has ever been. It is a tragic irony to hear women shouting it down.

Yours etc, PATRICIA SCOTLAND, LAUREN FLEISCHMANN, TESSA HINGSTON, 1 Gray's Inn Square, WC1.

Murder in Ulster

From Mr James H. Molyneux, M.P. for Antrim South (Official Ulster-Unionist)

Sir, I must protest against the words applied by your Belfast Correspondent, Christopher Thomas, today (November 18) to our late colleague, Robert Bradford.

Whatever might have been his, or our, opinions, nothing can justify the words "a political career marked by its fury". I must add that the whole dispatch was a monstrous piece of sneering and cynical reportage. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, JAMES MOLYNEUX, House of Commons.

From Mr Mark Hobart

Sir, If members of Parliament for Northern Ireland, who say they are elected by those who wish to remain governed by the British, state that they intend to make Northern Ireland ungovernable, might someone explain how they then expect that wish to be fulfilled?

Yours faithfully, MARK HOBART, 2 The Old Orchard, Nessington Road, NW3.

Brideshead at Bodleian

From Mr E. P. Wilson

Sir, However much they enjoy the television series *Brideshead Revisited*, friends of the Bodleian Library will be aghast at the current "exhibition" there called *Brideshead Revisited*.

A whole exhibition room has been given over to the Granada Television Company. The centre of the room is dominated by three huge display stands covered with 117 photographs or stills from the television series; another stand consists of photographs of laudatory press reviews of the series; dummies display the costumes used. By the doorway a representative of Granada Television sells postcards of the leading actors, gramophone records of the music employed, souvenir booklets, and last, and doubtless least, Penguin copies of the novel. In cases around the walls, symbolically peripheral, the Library has put on show, the only items which deserve inclusion in a scholarly library of its nature and standing, viz, for example, instances of Waugh's work as a writer and artist whilst an undergraduate at Oxford.

The Bodleian Library should permit one of its exhibition rooms to be largely taken over for a promotional exercise by a television company should arouse widespread disquiet and dismay. It is not that one expects all exhibitions to be of equal gravitas; one remembers with pleasure the exhibition ten years

Rates recovery

From the Chairman of the Severn Trent Water Authority

Sir, I read with dismay the letter from Professor Peter Birks (November 14).

Far from no payment being made to those people who fell within the decision of the House of Lords in the Daymond case, this authority has refunded approximately £11m to those involved.

While no doubt Professor Birks is thinking of the legal principle that money paid under a mistake in law is not refundable, the Water Charges Act 1976 was enacted to provide for repayment. Opinions differ as to whether in the long term the Daymond case benefited those people who were not connected to a sewer.

However, there is no doubt that each of the ten water authorities responded promptly and with honour to the House of Lords decision, however dismayed they may have been at its implications.

Yours faithfully, WILLIAM DUGDALE, Chairman, Severn Trent Water Authority, Abelson House, 2257 Coventry Road, Sheldon, Birmingham.

ago of printed ephemera from the John Johnson Collection. But ephemera need not be trivial, and that is what the room is now largely filled with. That trivia may give pleasure is irrelevant — so may an ice show, but one would not expect the Bodleian Library to stage one.

In 1605 Bacon described the Bodleian Library as "an ark to save learning from deluge". Through the present ludicrous masquerade it seems as if the ark is beginning to be scuttled. One looks to Bodley's curators to prevent such leaks again.

Yours faithfully, E. P. WILSON, Worcester College, Oxford. November 13.

Handicapped children

From Lady Coggan

Sir, Some years ago, as a social worker, I was in a group going round a mental hospital in the north of England. A woman in our group asked the doctor in charge why these severely retarded girls were kept alive.

"Madam," he replied, "you don't know what they do for us". He then turned to the young staff nurse and said to us: "Every night she waits till they fall asleep on the floor, and then she picks them up and puts them into bed between clean sheets".

Such compassion would be missing if there were no babies or children needing such care.

Yours faithfully, JEAN B. COGGAN, Kingshead House, Sissinghurst, Kent.

Urban fox

From Mr Donald Forbes

Sir, Foxes wasted no time after Canon Crozier's sightings (November 9) in the sixties. Towards the end of 1978 I saw a dog fox near Swiss Cottage, London NW3, at about 10 pm. He was crossing Fitzjohn's Avenue from Belsize Lane heading for the Finchley Road. Far from streaking, he threaded his way nonchalantly through the slowly moving vehicles like an experienced domestic dog.

Yours faithfully, D. N. FORBES, High Wycombe, Brompton Regis, Dulynton, Somerset.

NEW BOOKS

Some people

The Great Detectives
Seven Original Investigations
(Orbis, £7.95)
Critical Observations
(Faber, £9.75)
By Julian Symons

Julian Symons crops up all over the place in different guises: historian, reviewer, essayist, poetry editor, crime novelist. In the photograph on the cover of *Critical Observations* he glances warily from the camera; he is hidden by glasses and a little beard. He goes in for problems and puzzles — one of his jollier books, *Bloody Murder*, a history of the detective story, begins with a set of baffling questions ("Is it a detective crime psychological analysis? Is it a police story?") and opaque answers ("No, it's a hybrid"). So when he simultaneously produces two such unlikely books as these, we should ask what he is up to.

Take, first, *Critical Observations*, a very peculiar book indeed. It is a collection of essays, articles and reviews, written between 1964 and 1979. In every case the subject is either mysterious or obscure. Here, for instance, is Frances Newman, born and raised in Atlanta in the 1890s, author of *The Hard-Boiled Virgin* (1926), which should have heralded *There's a Certain Elegance About Celibacy*, *Eminent Virgins*, *So-Called*, and a history of sophistication, all, alas, unwritten. Here, too, is Hart Crane, whose poetry "has never found many admirers in Britain" (much of it is about bridges) and whose chief passion was for sailors (he subscribed to a naval bulletin reporting the movements of the fleet). There is an introduction to Wyndham Lewis's neglected first novel, with pieces on Little Magazines, essays on the various complicated lives of Dashiell Hammett, Agatha Christie, Simonon and Raymond Chandler, and portraits of Symons's friends, Rudyard Kipling, T. S. Eliot, E. V. Rieu, and George Woodcock (not, of course, the TUC one), sweet and serious, who, though his links with Anarchist groups have not been close for many years, retains a feeling that "Anarchism would be an ideal state of affairs if it could be achieved". The first essay describes Mr Symons's encounter with the nine volumes

(out of a projected fifteen) of the collected works of his namesake Arthur Symonds, a "super-typical literary figure" of the Nineties, editor of the *Savoy*, who lived and wrote on, ghostly, thirty-five years on, after his doctor had predicted his imminent death from G.P.I. The last piece finds Mr Symons (ours) earnestly teaching at Amherst College in Massachusetts ("Pressed by me into writing sestinas and villanelles they resisted at first... What a rum book. So, in its way, is *The Great Detectives*, my little dream"), writes its illustrator, Tom Adams, "when reacting with enthusiasm to Virgil Pomfret's original idea... what I was letting myself in for." It is a most convoluted notion: Julian Symons has prepared seven biographies of fictional detectives — Sherlock Holmes, Miss Marple, Archie Goodwin, Ellery Queen and Father Brown, Hercule Poirot and Philip Marlowe. Some chapters are discreetly and disconcertingly linked; it is suggested, for example, that the distressed heroine who tracks Holmes to the cottage where he spends his retirement baking bread and beeping (eh?) grows up in Miss Marple, and that the fellow who hangs about while Poirot arrests his man in the greenroom is Poirot on special assignment.

Each biography has an apparatus of footnotes, explaining how we know of Marlowe's rates of pay, Poirot's age, Goodwin's furniture, etc., and is illustrated with Tom Adams's alarmingly realistic drawings. Mr Symons himself occasionally appears: one of his subjects suspects that he is an FBI man, though plainly he is doing nothing more than working out Virgil Pomfret's curious, plotless purpose. All very muddling. The explanation must be that Mr Symons is a shy man, who has hidden behind parodies of other authors' styles so that he won't be discovered when *The Great Detectives* is read by countless fans at Christmas. *Critical Observations* is part of his smokescreen: a strange assortment of fragments to lure readers away to minor authors, to *The Hard-Boiled Virgin*, *Mrs. Duker's Millions* and *The Anarchist Prince*. Mr Symons's skill is in drawing our attention to other writers and away from himself. That, therefore, must be his game here; he is, in fact, the Great Detective.

Janet Morgan

Heyhoe

Me Again

Uncollected writings of Stevie
Edited by Jack Barbara and William McBrien
(Virago, £9.95)

I must declare an interest in that some of the most enchanting and illuminating items in this collection are letters written to me. In fact, in the main, the selection of letters provides the best material (being freshly minted as it were) in this rather uneven volume of Stevie Smith miscellanea, edited by Professor McBrien and Jack Barbara, two American academics now engaged in writing a definitive biography of the late poet and novelist. This may be described as the glow of their research, and, in spite of Stevie's text (whether poetry or fiction) being ever scintillating, the result here of so much bulk is not altogether successful as intellectual entertainment.

Stories, essays, reviews, poems, letters and a radio play comprise the whole. The stories, apart from "Is there a life beyond the Grave?" (interest declared again: I commissioned this for an anthology), are meagre. Stevie, thin in humour (Stevie's forte was as a tragic humorist), lacking the crunch of her *Novel on Yellow Paper* and *The Holiday*: in fact they appear to fly over the head of the fabric of *Over the Frontier*, her second published novel. Perhaps driven by publicity to repeat the star success of her *Novel on Yellow Paper*, Stevie allowed this second novel, which contains many rejected reviews and rejected poems. The essays are autobiographically interesting in that they inform about her childhood, Palmers Green, the "Lion" aunt and similar

themes which are better illustrated in the other two novels, and in her poems. One has to say that the whole of Stevie's work is autobiographical, or rather variations on the same theme. The essays read as marginal notes for fiction and poetry: in the latter Stevie brought her autobiographical art to perfection, which is probably why she was a poet of genius and a novelist of idiosyncratic talent.

Reprinting reviews is ever dicey, and while these show that Stevie was a reviewer of wit and beautifully informed in her prejudices, their brevity does not greatly add to our knowledge of her point of view, better expressed in the fiction and poetry.

The letters are indeed fascinating because they show that the dark despair, the death-wish of Stevie, was ever accompanied by a bright spark of optimism pitched to fantasy. They show her vulnerable to critical opinion, and eager, as any author, to gain esteem among her peers. The nicest extract is from a letter to myself in which she tells me about her famous poem "Not Waving But Drowning", which she had just sent Punch and liked it, "think it funny I suppose". The poems have not been included in the selection she made shortly before her death for the definitive volume, and one does gain the impression that these are very minor, if still of interest to fans. The radio play? Well yes, interesting of course, as is most material from Stevie Smith, whose genius caught the public imagination at long last, and brought her such posthumous fame — which she would have delighted in. Heyhoe, to quote Stevie.

Kay Dick



Odysseus: Nobel poet of the hungry heart

The Nobel Prize-winner for Literature in 1979, Odysseus Elytis, arrives in London next week to take part in the first international surrealist exhibition which was arranged there that year under the inspiration of Andreas Embirikos and other surrealists connected with the paper *Nes Grammatiki*. I remember the stir it made in Athens at the time although I can't claim to remember any of the exhibits. Since then he has pursued his art with faithfulness and assiduity, taking from surrealism the love for fantasy and the free-flowing stream of ideas which was what exhilarated him in his youthful reading of Paul Eluard, and adding to them a gravity which has its base in a deeply felt Hellenism.

His family origins are from the island of Lesbos, but he was born in Heraklion, the capital of the island, a dependent state of Crete, in 1911. The first element in it means "fox": as Archilochus said, the fox knows many tricks. His pseudonym Elytis is close to the ancient word for "scabbard" or "case for a spear" (or a crab's shell) but his admirers connect it with

publicity. I say since his youth because in 1935 when he was a student in Athens he took part in the first international surrealist exhibition which was arranged there that year under the inspiration of Andreas Embirikos and other surrealists connected with the paper *Nes Grammatiki*. I remember the stir it made in Athens at the time although I can't claim to remember any of the exhibits. Since then he has pursued his art with faithfulness and assiduity, taking from surrealism the love for fantasy and the free-flowing stream of ideas which was what exhilarated him in his youthful reading of Paul Eluard, and adding to them a gravity which has its base in a deeply felt Hellenism.

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the first syllables of the words for Hellas, or hope or freedom. All three are concepts which could serve as keywords for much of his poetry. His first poems were published in literary magazines in Athens and Salonika. In 1939 he brought out his first collected work *Orientations*. When the Italians invaded Greece in 1940, he joined the army as a subaltern on the Albanian front. His experience marked him strongly. The war was fought in winter in tangled and hostile mountains. The Greeks were indifferently armed and equipped, and supply was difficult. Most of the time the daily rations amounted to a loaf of bread and a handful of olives. There was exhilaration from victory, and the liberation of old, lost centres of Greek civilization, followed by the collapse when the German invasion rescued Mussolini.

These experiences are reflected in the poem he published in 1945, *Heroic and Elegiac Song for the Subaltern Fallen in the Albanian Campaign*. He published little for the next 14 years, part of which he spent in Paris. Then came in 1959 his best known

and probably his best work, *To Axion Esti*. The title recalls a Byzantine hymn and means "It is worthy"; it is also the name given to a famous icon of the Virgin. The Greek language is infinitely flexible and euphonic. Greek poetry has the longest continuous history of any in Europe; the whole of his heritage is available to the poet of today. In this long work in three parts there are elements that recall the classical writers, the medieval liturgy, the poems of the War of Independence and the work of the school of Seferis, Gatsos, Engonopoulos, and others whose revival of lyric poetry was a source of innocence and revolutionary force. It is my mission to direct these forces against a world my conscience cannot accept; precisely in order to bring that world, through continual changes, to be more in harmony with my dreams.

David Hunt

Brave endeavours

Diaries 1920-1922
By Siegfried Sassoon
Edited and introduced by Rupert Hart-Davis
(Faber, £9.95)

Very few of those who emerged still breathing from the unholly horrors of World War I managed to do so wholly unmarked. In Sassoon's case the damage was psychological, rather than physical. A gifted writer, he failed somehow to make the most of himself. Revision at the scourgings he had needlessly endured produced vivid angry poems but the impression you come away with in this and is one of post-lapse rather than *sans* indignation. He lived on to write much in prose that was honest and worthwhile — amongst it a crotchety, insufficiently read life of Meredith — but although by now a strictly enforced self-control has become apparent, this never quite leads to the sovereign power he always seems to be promising us.

These diaries, dating from his middle thirties, convey well the troubles and travails of a staunch, bewildered man. Is his writing worth anything? Can he make it better? Is trying to make it better any more than a waste of time? In what sense, if any, is his deviant sexuality a matter for guilt? — this last of course, in

the early 1920s, a much more menacing question than now. There have always been two kinds of published diary: the day-by-day take-it-as-it-comes sort and the meditative Axel-type in which colloquialisms not necessarily centring on the self are set out at length. Sassoon's are a combination of the two. For example you can find mugs like "March 24 To Cinema 3.15/March 24 Hum/March 25 Go to Weybridge" but then, only a fortnight later, comes a splendidly vivid description of Sassoon losing a jumping race on his mare Lady Lily and reflecting afterwards in the bluey haze evening while a friend struggles with a mulish magnet, "On the vanity of human race-riding".

He was of course a man with full and easy right of entry into the literary scene, and good portraits, as well as good judgments about the unflattering decency and generosity of Arnold Bennett are once more made plain, and the literary problems confronting Conrad in his later stages exactly pinpointed. This is a richly enjoyable book though always the author's brave endeavours not to become too unhappy are putting a considerable strain on him. Things might have gone so much better for him, I always feel, if he'd had more money worries.

David Williams

Royal tattle

H.R.H. The Princess Margaret
A Life Unfinished
By Nigel Dempster
(Quartet, £7.95)

The publicity for Nigel Dempster's book about Princess Margaret claims that he "discloses the background to her eventual life and the true nature of this gracious and remarkable woman." And in his acknowledgements he professes "only praise and admiration" for the Princess, a sure sign that some pretty rough stuff is to follow.

His book turns out to be a chronicle of gossip concerning Princess Margaret and her circle of friends. Gossip is of course Mr Dempster's trade, and there is no doubt that his ear is close to the ground. But gossip is surely only of interest if it is illuminating, entertaining, and fresh. In this book it is none of these things. He makes no attempt to explain why Princess Margaret's marriage failed but he reveals in every available manifestation of that failure. The author does however point out how unfair it has been that all the blame was heaped on Princess Margaret while Lord Snowdon emerged unscathed. I have always assumed that Lord Snowdon had more discreet friends than she.

I am a bit doubtful about the sources for some of Mr Dempster's material. He has relied heavily on such characters as Dai Llewellyn, while the better informed and more intelligent Lady Elizabeth Cavendish has eluded him. And for a gossip writer he makes several shoddy errors. For example, he tells us that Lord Snowdon followed the "precedent" of Angus Ogilvy not taking a side on marriage. As we all know, Mr Ogilvy did not marry until three years later.

Mr Dempster fails to tackle the enigmatic character of Princess Margaret. There is nothing here of her approach to her duties, her talents, her religious convictions or even her capricious personality. He seems to sum up his book with the words "Royal life is a favourite theme of the Press whose members are never privy to first-hand personal glimpses of Royal Family life." The purpose of his book must therefore be to enhance his reputation as a dispassionate observer. In the process Princess Margaret is the victim, but she will emerge unscathed. The author quotes her as saying: "I've been misreported and misrepresented since the age of seven and I gave up long ago reading about myself."

Hugo Vickers

Fiction

Bliss

By Peter Carey

(Faber, £6.50)

Where were you at Waterloo?

By Nicholas Best

(Hale, £6.95)

Bliss is not about bliss, but about hell on earth. The hero Harry Joy dies twice, but each time his heart is revived. His spirit does not want to return to the torments and vulgarities of the married life of an advertising man in an Australian town. But he must work through the infernal comedy of human relationships until he achieves an earthly salvation with Honey Barbara, an ecological whore from Bog Onion Road.

In this first novel, Peter Carey shows his command over the great black humour and modern fable. A glittering style and an acerbic wit do not disguise a moral concern with the pollution of mankind and the planet. At one moment Harry Joy's monstrous wife invents a new product, *Organic Poison*. It would be a more apt title for this book, which heralds the appearance of another important novelist from Australia.

Nicholas Best's *Where were you at Waterloo?* is a recruiting manual for the Brigade of Guards masquerading as a satire. The Gobelins Guards leave Public Duties in London to fly on to British Casuarina in order to stiffen the front line and put paid to a gang of Warlocks. The range of comedy extends from Carry On Bearskin to caricature — a gay visiting film director, of course, has made a film called *Puffer in Boots*. Some sound

plotting is tripped up by slack writing. At trooping the Colour, "several pairs of eyeballs rattled in seventy skulls". You could hear that at Waterloo.

The Central American Republic of Tecan in A Flag for Sunrise by Robert Stone (Secker & Warburg, £6.95) is a Vietnam and after. Robert Stone, the author of the praised *Dog Soldiers*, pursues his studies of violence and depravity in the present areas of revolutionary change. There are echoes of Conrad and Greene, but brutality is always the resolution of moral choice. His Guardia Lieutenant keeps the body of a young hippie girl in the trenches then demands absolution for torturing a young nun to death with cow prods. Over all the mayhem, Stone puts a knowing cynicism that claims to be historical analysis. "We're all the joke", his hero says after looting his drug-crazed shipmate. "We're

the joke on one another." And a bloody joke it is. Really, the book should be called *The Power and the Gory*.

The best thing about J. A. Underwood's new translation of Franz Kafka: *Stories*, 1904-1924 (Macdonald, £7.95) is an elegant foreword by Borges, in which he declares that Kafka and his work, not the convolutions of the story or the psychological portrait of the hero, is the collection presented here does not pretend to be comprehensive: "The Burrow" and "The Great Wall of China", for instance, are missing. A comparison to the classic translations by the Muirs is odious, but necessary. Underwood claims to have been more faithful to the original German, yet to have updated the language — surely a contradiction in terms. The new translation offers few striking improvements on the old and one turn for the worse. The names are Anglicized: Meg for Greta, Gregory for Gregor, a metamorphosis that Underwood defends on the grounds that the characters are people, not foreigners. By that reasoning, *Otello* should be by Joseph Green and the Brandenburg Concertos by John Brook.

Funeral Games (Murray, £6.95) brings Mary Renault's splendid Alexandrian quartet to an end with her reconstruction of the unsavoury battle for power after the death of Alexander the Great. As Renault observes, he was responsible for that chaos because he failed to make a dynastic marriage and father and heir before he left for India. Had he done so, the Macedonians would have had no need to consider rival claimants. Even with the help of a list of principal characters, the convolutions of policy detract from any enjoyment of Renault's imaginative and stylistic power. Her honourable accuracy leads her to need to defeat interest and comprehension.

Andrew Sinclair

Whigs and all that

A Liberal Descent
Victorian Historians and the English Past
By J. W. Burrow
(Cambridge, £19.50)

Macaulay, thanks to a radical biography by John Clive and to Thomas Finney's superb edition of the letters, we now know almost as well as he knew himself — better, perhaps. The place of William Stubbs as the father of modern, archive-based constitutional history in England is secure and even J. A. Froude remains in view, if slightly out of focus on the edge of larger studies devoted to Kingsley or Carlyle. But Freeman?

Of the four major figures who make up this learned, witty and exceptionally well written book on the uses of history by Victorian England in its high Protestant, Liberal prime, the most thoroughly forgotten to the general eye is Edward August Freeman (1823-1892). Born in the year that Byron went to die in Greece, and Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford from 1884 to his own death eight years later, Freeman attempted to combine the uncombable in a quixotic and wholly Victorian way: extreme pedantry with aspirations to succeed Macaulay in popular acclaim as bard to the memory of Anglo-Saxon England; acute Francophilia with the rarely used Latin word when a "Germanic" one was to hand, and was so averse to the French system of centralized government that the very sight of the word *prefet* was enough to ruin his day with a great love of France and French architecture particularly when it was, historically, not French. The Normans were not French but Norse, which was why they settled down so easily over here. Within a century and a half, just in time for Magna Carta, we had absorbed them, which was a good thing, and yet our great leader Harold had perished on Senlac field (Hastings), which clearly was not.

Reader in Intellectual History at the University of Sussex, Dr Burrow is too serious and wide-ranging a scholar actually, to mention 1066 and *All That* by name, although I thought I detected a mischievous allusion at least once. But the study of both Freeman and Froude makes the point that Seller and Yeatman's target was never English history itself but the sometime outrageous use the Victorians made of it. Freeman thought Whigs and Tories could be traced back to the eleventh century and once invaded Froude's pitch by describing Henry VIII as a "king who, with all his crimes, was at least an Englishman". He and Froude were both late Romanticists and, travellers, delighting above all in the survival into the present of the past: primitive democracy

in the town meetings of a Swiss canton; the peasant soldiers of Horatian Rome on the Boer farms of the Cape.

Three members of the Burrow quartet considered a singular national event — Macaulay's Revolution of 1688, Freeman the Conquest, and Froude the Reformation — seeking within its uniqueness some definition of England. This was then pulled into line, to varying degrees of success, with the prevalent Whig interpretation of history which placed continuity and renewal before all else and became, during their lifetimes and largely due to their popularity, effectively the official view. It was, as Dr Burrow points out, their particular good fortune that no English national history was attempted in the nineteenth century from the opposing Tory or Radical sides: Carlyle, for example, poured his wild poetry into the histories of Germany and France, and even among the Whigs comes near the genius of Carlyle.

Burrow directs his sharpest critical intelligence at Macaulay (who demands nothing less) and in a brilliantly convincing chapter verging at times on literary criticism, outlines the limitations of Macaulay's imaginative vision and the processed whereby the history came to embody nothing more than "the secularism of English respectability". I should have written "nothing more than" for from this follows Lord Acton's observation at the end of the century that Macaulay's essays offered "a key to half the prejudices of our age". Who has done the same for us? Trevelyan? Churchill? Our history has lain politically idle since 1945: nobody dares make bold, popular use of it after 1970 and before that nobody cares. We leave precedent to the lawyer; we are ignorant of analogy and association, unlettered in our own past.

Stubbs is the odd one out of the four. "Horror of the facile man deep in a Stubbs' nature", writes Burrow, "it was a hard fate that made him so long an instructor of youth". But an instructor of youth he remained, indeed a supreme undergraduate's crib, not strictly a narrative history at all, more like a new method of discovering truth by a new mind. Dr Burrow may well be the first man since F. W. Maitland to sit down and read the *Constitutional History* right through, for pleasure. Coming not from a medievalist but from a scholar of nineteenth century intellectual history and a man of wide reading who knows that in making the remark, he is placing Stubbs in the company of *Lost Illusions*, *Middlemarch* and the *Orion* of Species, the tribute is both original and impressive. I must go back to Bishop Stubbs.

Michael Ratcliffe

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Need for an exchange rate policy? page 19

Wage rates and the young, page 19

Business News

THE TIMES Thursday November 19 1981

Levy may hold off cocoa collapse

By Our Commodities Correspondent

Cocoa prices could collapse if attempts by the International Cocoa Organisation to find extra funding for its buffer stock fail tomorrow.

Cocoa for March delivery has already fallen by £61 a tonne to £1,066.50 this week. At the beginning of November it was £1,166.50 a tonne.

Mr. Juergen Plambek, the organisation's buffer fund manager, told the executive committee in London that he had failed to persuade banks to put up a syndicated loan of as much as \$400m (£210m). It is understood that consumer members of the organisation would not agree to guarantee the loan.

The buffer stock needs funds because it has spent about \$158m of its available £230m trying to lift the cocoa price above the 110 cents a lb agreed last month. The price is about 15 cents below the intervention level despite the organisation having bought 64,000 tonnes of cocoa in less than two months.

In place of the loan, the organisation may decide today to raise the levy on cocoa traded by members to 2 cents a 3 cents a lb from the present 1 cent. At the same time it seems likely that members will agree to the buffer stock manager entering the market with his remaining funds.

But since Mr. Kwesi Hackman, the executive director, has estimated that world cocoa stocks stand at 500,000 tonnes, further purchases will be necessary to stop another slide. The organisation will, therefore, be considering a second recommendation that the buffer stock be authorised to buy 40,000 tonnes of cocoa for delivery between June and October of 1982 on deferred payment.

Yesterday's meeting was attended by a representative of the International Monetary Fund. Although he apparently did not commit the fund to providing money, he did say that balance of payments assistance might be forthcoming for cocoa producing countries.

WH SMITH PROFITS RECOVER

W. H. Smith yesterday announced a sharp recovery in profits for the first eight months of the financial year, despite heavy losses in its American publishing business.

The pretax profits of £3.1m compares with £817,000 in the same period last year. Sales rose £54m to £468.7m. Trading profits were £4.6m against £2.7m, while interest charges were cut from £1.9m to £1.4m. The trading figures included a profit on sale of properties of £1.4m, against £353,000.

The United States publishing operations produced a loss of £3m, well up on the previous year's loss of £4,700,000. Smith is now to pull out of contract distribution and general publishing in the United States and concentrate on the viable operations, religious publishing and bargain books.

Financial Editor, page 19

Squeeze on Libya forces offer of oil price cut

By Michael Press

Libya, one of Opec's toughest members, has given way to severe political pressure and threats of withdrawal by major oil companies and offered to cut its oil price by \$1 a barrel to about \$36.50.

The attempt at conciliation is a vivid demonstration of the impact of the continuing oil glut and of Saudi Arabia's success at last month's Opec meeting in forcing oil price reduction.

The offer comes only two days after Exxon, the world's biggest oil company, announced that it is ceasing all operations in Libya. Mobil, another oil major, is also thought very likely to pull out.

Libya has also been under considerable pressure politically to pursue a less aggressive role in the Middle East and Africa. Libyan troops are being withdrawn from Chad, in central Africa. It was widely known in Washington for several months

that the State Department has been unhappy about the involvement in the country of American oil companies.

The \$1 a barrel price cut has been offered to three companies, Conoco, Marathon, and Amerasia Hess, which are partners with the Libyan National Oil Company in the Oasis Oil Company.

It is the third time Libya has been forced to cut its price in barely a month. After trying to maintain prices at over \$40 a barrel during the summer when demand for Opec oil was slumping, Libya finally agreed at the last Opec meeting to charge \$37.50. Since then it has whittled the price down to about \$37.

The oil companies believed that the prices Libya has been charging for most of the year have been too high in relation to both demand and the Saudi

Arabian market price, even allowing for the high quality of Libyan oil.

American, Italian, French and other oil companies therefore bought less oil from Libya, whose production has fallen from 1.7m barrels a day six months ago to under 700,000. It is believed that Libya now fears for its balance of payments and has been discussing with western banks the possibility of raising loans.

Exxon's own production had declined by last month to just 1,800 barrels a day. Libya exports 275,000 barrels a day to the United States, and in all there are 34 American oil companies in the country.

But the smaller companies, such as the Oasis partners, depend much more heavily on Libya for crude than the majors and will probably stay in the country. Exxon and Mobil are



Jenkin hints at more aid for machine tool industry

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Strong hints that the Government is planning to step up the level of financial backing to promote the development of new manufacturing technologies were given last night by Mr. Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry.

He told members of the Machine Tool Trades Association at their annual dinner in London that they were standing on the threshold of a rapidly-changing technology.

He emphasised the Government's commitment to encourage the development of new techniques through the robot support programme and to finance development of Computer Aided Design and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAD/CAM).

"My department is ready with financial help for the development of advanced machine tools," he said. "Under the requirements of the new department, we are backing companies moving into flexible manufacturing systems and we are ready to increase the scale of that support."

The Industry Secretary referred to the growing need for designers and builders of machine tools to work more closely with companies engaged in electronics, laser technology and automated factory design to promote a new atmosphere of collaboration.

□ Britain's employers are to draw up measures to alleviate the high levels of unemployment and are to reaffirm industry's call for the Government to initiate a modest reduction in meetings with senior ministers in the next few days.

Members of the Confederation of British Industry's policy-making committee agreed yesterday to establish an action group to set ways of reducing unemployment. The move follows a resolution at the national conference earlier this month.

Video book on sale in two years

By David Hewson

Talking encyclopaedias which can run a programme through an ordinary television set, hold a memory of thousands of reference pages, and ask the viewer questions, will be on sale in Britain within two years.

Work on the product is already under way after an agreement between two British companies, Thorn EMI and Mitchell Beazley, the publishers to start a joint electronic publishing venture.

Mr. Garry Pownall, director of Thorn EMI Video, said yesterday that one of the first titles to be produced under the agreement was likely to be *The Joy of Knowledge*, a 16-volume encyclopaedia. Future titles should cover the fields of photography, wine, gardening, nature, health and sex education, art and general reference material.

The partnership will produce home video material on the standard tape cassettes now in common use. But it is concentrating technological work on the introduction of the new VCD video disc system, developed in Japan by JVC, which is due to come on sale in Britain next June.

The discs will cost between £15 and £20, unlike cassette tapes, cannot be used for recording. They can produce a static image or provide 24 individual images each second.

This will allow the producers to shoot a standard television introduction to a particular subject. When that has been run, it will be followed by hundreds of individual page frames which can be viewed for the fine detail or skipped to go on to the next chapter.

Mr. Pownall forecasts that the interactive disc system, which uses a microchip to test the viewer's questions about the programme, should be on sale within two years. As well as having educational possibilities, it could also be used in the entertainment field to enable viewers to choose what sort of ending a film should have, or influence the programme content in some other way.



Flowery future for wallpaper

By Our Commercial Editor

Fashion could be coming to the rescue of Britain's wallpaper manufacturers, hit severely last year by heavy retail de-stocking on the home market and a 20 per cent plunge in exports. But, even after the closure of half a dozen factories with the loss of about 1,500 jobs in the past year, further rationalisation of production at the lower end of the wallpaper market is likely, says Mr. John Ashcroft, president of the Wallpaper Manufacturers' Association, said in London yesterday.

The era of the white-walled look, with mainly do-it-yourself enthusiasts slapping emulsion paint everywhere in the house, could be ending after more than 10 years in fashion, suggested Mr. Ashcroft, who is Chairman of Colortex, the Nelson, Lancashire, independent manufacturers' union, claim nearly a fifth of the wall coverings market.

Cheap surface printed wallpaper—rejected by consumers because of its "meat in the hand" characteristics—was almost disappearing, Mr. Ashcroft said. In 1970, 60 million rolls of this type of wallpaper were sold but last year this was down to three million. Heavier weights were now in.

The remaining overcapacity in the wallpapering industry was in surface print papers and this was where further rationalisation was likely, he added. But the rest of the industry was now on a stable base with a likely return to profit throughout the industry next year.

The wallpapering industry saw its £150m turnover in 1979—a third of it for exports—decline to £135m last year. In the home market the sales decline was around 10 per cent. Several smaller companies went out of the wallpapering business, leaving around 15 manufacturers in the field.

Profits on roofing tiles 'excessive'

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Marley and Redland subsidiaries, with around 80 per cent of the concrete roofing tile market between them, have been in only muted competition and have made long-term excessive profits, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission has decided.

In a hard-hitting report on the tile industry yesterday, the commission recommended that from now on the industry, including its costs and profits, should be monitored by Mr. Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, backed by necessary by the threat of further legal action against the two market leaders.

That could be considered if Marley or Redland pricing policies resulted in high profits in future or if there was concern that competition between them remained limited, the commission said.

There could be action under the Competition Act, or the Government has powers under the Fair Trading Act to regulate prices.

Mrs. Sally Oppenheim, Minister for Consumer Affairs, accepting the commission's findings yesterday, said she would be asking Mr. Borrie to open discussions with those involved.

Both Marley and Redland said they would cooperate with Mr. Borrie, but Mr. David Lyon, Redland's deputy managing director, said: "We want to continue to run our business efficiently without any controls."

Marley said its profits had been no more than adequate considering the planned level of capital expenditure.

Stock market reaction to the report came mostly after hours with the shares of both Marley and Redland being marked down by almost 10 per cent. Marley fell from 36½p to 33p and Redland was down from 15½p to 14½p. Brokers said the falls probably reflected the late publication of the report rather than an understanding of its content. Both recovered a little of their losses late in the afternoon.

Local authorities, the main bulk tile buyers, should make use of this power to reduce prices and foster competition, the commission said. Mr. Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, is to consider this recommendation.

Any takeover proposals by Marley or Redland for smaller tile makers, of which there are a little more than a dozen, should be allowed only exceptionally, the commission said. Mrs. Oppenheim said she would bear that in mind.

Mr. Borrie should monitor discounting of local orders to ensure that there is no excessive discounting by either Marley or Redland which might lead off new entrants to the industry or unduly affect the smaller makers, the commission said.

It added that between the two firms' subsidiaries, there has been muted competition, particularly in London and the South-east. As a result, prices over the long term had been excessive.

Concrete Roofing Tiles: House of Commons paper 12; HMSO, £7.

Financial Editor, page 19

Australian diamond mine given starting deadline

By Our Mining Correspondent

The Ashton joint venture, a partnership whose property in Western Australia could increase world diamond output by half, must submit proposals by the end of next year for starting production, under a bill introduced into the Western Australian parliament.

Mr. Peter Jones, Western Australia resources development minister, told the parliament yesterday that he expects production from the joint venture's alluvial diamond deposit to start before the end of 1982.

Production from the Kimberley pipe AK-1 will have to begin before the end of 1986, he added.

The move follows a requirement a minimum production of 500,000 tonnes of ore from the alluvial deposits and two million tonnes from the Kimberlite.

World production of diamonds last year was 47 million carats. Explorations have identified at least 100 million tonnes of diamondiferous material at the remote site in the north-east of Western Australia.

The joint venture is owned by Conzinc Rio Tinto of Australia (56.8 per cent), Ashton Mining (38.2 per cent) and Northern Mining (5 per cent).

Mr. Jones said the bill will ratify the agreement between the partners and guarantee their claim to the deposit against the challenges of Afro-West Exploration which is disputing ownership in the supreme court of Western Australia.

Jobless costing '£4,500 each'

By Melvyn Westlake

only say that every extra 100,000 registered jobless (excluding school leavers) would cost £165m in benefits, rent rebates and administrative costs in 1981-82. This is 22 per cent more than 1980-81.

However, this excludes the loss of income tax, National Insurance contributions and the National Insurance surcharge. Earlier this year, the Treasury estimated that every extra 100,000 registered jobless would cost the Exchequer £240m or £3,400 per person (in 1980-81) when the loss of revenue and the cost of extra benefits and rebates were added together.

Recent calculations by the Manpower Services Commission suggest that every extra unemployed person now costs £4,380.

This is 46 per cent up on the cost two years ago. On this basis, unemployment costs have risen by one and a half times the rate of inflation over the same period and suggests that the total cost of the jobless this year will be £12,450m.

Another study, due to be published next month, puts the total at almost £13,000m for 1981-82, assuming that the average number of people registered as jobless is 2.9 million. This is the figure arrived at by researchers at the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

According to the IFS, the average cost of each unemployed person is £4,500, although this applies to the total jobs rather than to such additional unemployed person.

The income tax lost is estimated to be £3,100m, with a further £2,600m foregone in National Insurance contributions. The fall in income among the unemployed will mean that they have lost to spend, therefore, the Exchequer also loses £2,560m in indirect taxes.

At the same time, the Government has to pay out £4,600m in benefits.

Stock Markets

FT Index 503.5 down 4.8
FT 100 Index 503.5 down 4.8
FT all shares 300.26 down 2.22
Bargains 17,835

Sterling

\$1.9145 up 210 points
Index 90.3 up 0.1
New York: \$1.9243

Dollar

Index 106.9 down 0.4
DM2-2370 down 185 pts

Gold

\$402.50 up \$3
New York: \$397

Money

3 mth Sterling 141-144
3 mth Euro \$ 124-126
6 mth Euro \$ 124-126

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

CRSA 8p to 173p
Chesterfield 12p to 350p
Esperanza 12p to 140p
Gas & Oil Acre 30p to 440p
Glenview 14p to 405p
Husky Oil 10p to 285p
Husky Oil 10p to 285p
Lloyds Bank 12p to 415p
Lydenburg Plat 12p to 175p
Midland Tint 12p to 180p
Trust Sec 25p to 310p
Vakfontein 8p to 118p
Wade Pottery 12p to 34p
Western Asta 12p to 87p
W Rand Cons 12p to 87p

Falls

BTR 10p to 320p
Hestobell 20p to 360p
GIC 20p to 725p
Glaxo 10p to 425p
Granada 'A' 10p to 185p
7i Udy's 7p to 425p
Imp Chem Ind 15p to 274p
ep Grp 15p to 230p
11P (Hungary) 15p to 320p
Airtel RF 10p to 250p
aylor Woodrow 10p to 480p
Nirram 14p to 621p
Nirram Discount 10p to 425p

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Talks on investment

Members of the Grylls study group, which published proposals last month to stimulate investment by cutting industry's borrowing costs, meet Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Treasury officials today to discuss their recommendations.

The study group, set up by Mr. Michael Grylls, chairman of the Conservative Party's industry backbenchers' committee, and a strong supporter of small businesses, and headed by Sir John King, the British Airways chairman, has already had talks with the Department of Industry and will later be meeting Mr. Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry.

The main proposal in the report is that interest on bank loans for capital investment should be paid net of corporation tax by the borrower and that banks should recover the difference from the Treasury.

□ Volkswagen Merchant Bank, one of the leading African banks in South Africa, has acquired for about £1m a 75 per cent stake in the London-based E. S. Schwab, a small banking company with licensed deposit-taking status. Volkswagen said in Johannesburg that the acquisition was subject to the approval of the South African and United Kingdom authorities.

□ The Chinese Government is determined that joint ventures in China with foreign investors will succeed, Sir Murray Maclellan, the Governor of Hong Kong, stressed in an address to the Hong Kong Society of Accountants.

MINI-PHONE ON TRIAL

A miniature payphone (pictured) is being tested in the South-east of England by British Telecom. The unit is 9in square, 7in high and weighs less than 7lb but takes coins from 2p to 50p. The Telecom Payphone is expected to interest small businesses, small shops and restaurants. The phone can be switched to normal operation with a key. It could be available nationally by the middle of next year.

□ A United States federal judge has ordered a group headed by fugitive financier Robert Vesco to account for funds misappropriated from 108, a mutual fund, in a case first brought by the Securities and Exchange Commission in 1972.

□ Leading Swiss banks have cut time deposit rates by between 1 and 1½ percentage points.

OECD sees 28m on dole

Paris, Nov 18.—A year from now unemployment in the 24 countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) could reach 28 million, mainly due to an expected rise in United States jobless, OECD sources said today.

Three months ago the OECD forecast 26.5 million out of work, but the sources said growth in the 24 countries during the second half of this year is not expected.

The OECD forecast had been 1 per cent for the current six months. But growth was now likely to prove "only just positive."

The next OECD forecasts are due next month. Latest growth predictions were 2 per cent for the first half of 1982 and 3 per cent for the second—Agence France-Press.

Speculation cuts dollar

Speculation on further falls in American interest rates depressed the dollar in late European trading on foreign exchange markets. Business was thin, with German banks closed for the day.

The dollar fell 185 pfennigs to DM2.2370 at the close, after the Federal Reserve Board had added reserves to the banking system at a low 12½ per cent. The market saw the Fed's move as a sign that Tuesday's meeting of the board's open market committee had decided to relax its grip on the money supply.

The pound jumped more than 2 cents to \$1.9145, its highest level since the end of June. Its trade-weighted index against a basket of currencies improved 0.1 to 90.3.

Texaco 'contacted'

Texaco says it has been contacted by investment bankers and large shareholders of Marathon Oil in connection with Mobil's takeover bid for Marathon.

Mr. John McKinley, Texaco's chairman and chief executive, announced this from a prepared statement made in New York, but said he would not make any speculative comment. Marathon was not prepared to comment last night on Mr. McKinley's statement.

Exco men make millions

Exco International, the money broking group, made an exciting debut on the Stock Exchange yesterday with the shares rising 45p above their bid price to 185p in first dealings.

But after heated selling by investors lucky enough to have gained shares in the bid, the shares fell 5p and by the end of the day closed at 178p. Although this is still a 38p gain on the placing price, many in the City were disappointed that the premium had not been higher.

Eleven Exco directors have become millionaires overnight through their holdings in the group, Mr. John Goss, managing

Prices page

The Stock Exchange prices page published yesterday related to the situation at the close on November 17. We apologise to our readers for the error, and for any inconvenience caused.

TODAY

One-day conference on universities and industry organized by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. Prince of Wales to speak at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers' dinner. Mr. Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, is guest speaker at the Institute of Directors' annual dinner. Grosvenor House Hotel, London.

UNILEVER N.V.

DIVIDEND ON CERTIFICATES FOR ORDINARY CAPITAL
ISSUED BY N.V. NEDERLANDSCH ADMINISTRATIE-EN TRUSTANTOOR

Interest dividend payable in respect of the year 1981 will be made on or after 21st December 1981 as follows:

SUS-SHARES OF FL 12
IN THE NAME OF MIDLAND BANK EXECUTOR AND TRUSTEE COMPANY LIMITED
new MIDLAND BANK TRUST COMPANY LIMITED

A dividend, Serial No 107 of FL2,650 per sub-share, equivalent to £2565p converted at FL482.50 = £1.

DUTCH DIVIDEND TAX relief is given by certain Tax Conventions concluded by the Netherlands. A resident of a convention country will, generally, be liable to Dutch dividend tax at only 15% (FL1,388.75 per sub-share) provided the appropriate Dutch exemption form is submitted. No form is required from UK residents if the dividend is claimed within six months from the above date. If the sub-shares are owned by a UK resident and are effectively connected with a business carried on through a permanent establishment in the Netherlands, Dutch dividend tax at 25% (FL1,688.75 per sub-share) will be deducted and will be allowed as credit against the tax payable on the profits of the establishment. Residents of non-convention countries are liable to Dutch dividend tax at 25%.

UK INCOME TAX at the reduced rate of 15% (£388.88 per sub-share) on the gross amount will be deducted from payments to UK residents instead of at the basic rate of 30%. The difference is a provisional allowance of credit at the rate of 15% for the Dutch dividend tax already withheld. No UK income tax will be deducted from payments to non-UK residents who submit an interest Revenue Affidavit of non-residence in the UK.

To obtain payment of the dividend sub-shares certificates must be sent to Listing Forms obtainable from:

Midland Bank Limited, Stock Exchange Service Dept., Mariner House, Poultry Street, London, EC3N 4DA
Northern Bank Limited, 2, Waring Street, Belfast BT1 2EE
Aldford Bank Limited, 34, Foster Place, Dublin 2
Clydesdale Bank Limited, 30 St Vincent Place, Glasgow
Separate forms are available for use (a) by Banks, UK firms of Stockbrokers, Solicitors or Chartered Accountants (b) by other claimants. Notes on the procedure, in each case, are printed on the forms.

DUTCH CERTIFICATES OF FL1,000, FL100 and FL20

A dividend of FL4.44 per FL20 against surrender of Coupon No 107. Coupons may be cashed through one of the paying agents in the Netherlands or through Midland Bank Limited; in the latter case they must be sent to the special form, obtainable from the Bank, which contains a declaration that the certificate does not belong to a Netherlands resident. Withdrawals for claiming relief from Dutch dividend and UK income tax are £5 per sub-share except the UK residents liable to Dutch dividend tax at only 15% must submit a Dutch exemption form. Dutch dividend tax on this dividend is FL1.11 at 25% and FL0.666 at 15%. The proceeds from the encashment of coupons through a paying agent in the Netherlands will be credited to a convertible bank account with a bank of broker in the Netherlands.

A statement of the procedure for claiming relief from Dutch dividend tax and for the encashment of coupons, including names of paying agents and conversion costs, can be obtained from Midland Bank Limited at the above address or from the London Transfer Office.

N.V. NEDERLANDSCH ADMINISTRATIE-EN TRUSTANTOOR
London Transfer Office, Unilever House, Blackfriars, London EC4P 4BS.
17th November 1981

IN BRIEF

Open trade doors wide, Japan urged

Leaders of Japan's federation of economic organizations (Keidanren) are to urge the Tokyo Government of the danger of protectionism arising in the United States and West European countries unless Japan reduces its growing trade surplus.

Chairman Mr Yoshihiro Inayama and other Keidanren leaders recognized at a special meeting today the need for opening Japanese markets wider, avoiding sharp increases in specific exports, promoting imports, and establishing industrial cooperation with Western countries.

The leaders agreed that the Japanese government should work out specific measures to achieve the four aims within a few months, the spokesman said.

The Keidanren will also consider its own ways of avoiding a rush of exports of cars, television sets, video recorders and other items at another meeting today.

Volkswagen record

Volkswagen of West Germany has produced 40 million vehicles worldwide since 1945, a feat never before achieved by a non-American car maker. "The lion's share of that figure is held by the legendary Beetle", a company statement said.

Energy priority

The International Energy Agency said in Paris, research and development of new energy sources must remain a top priority for industrial nations to safeguard energy supplies in the 1990s.

French power move

The construction of oil-fired power stations in France will in future have to be approved by the government. The move is in line with plans to boost consumption of coal.

Videocolor stake sold

The French electrical and electronics group Thomson-Brandt is to acquire the 42 per cent interest held by RCA Corp of the United States in Videocolor, Europe's second-biggest producer of colour television tubes.

Japan-China loans

Japan's Export-Import Bank is negotiating with the Bank of China on the supply of loans to finance Japanese exports of small industrial plant to China.

Joint coal venture

The Kawasaki Steel Corporation said yesterday it is interested in a proposal by the Anax Group of the United States to develop coal mines in Wyoming in a joint venture to supply steaming coal to Japan.

Britain urges curbs on steel imports

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Tighter control on the level of steel imports into Europe from non-EEC countries is being urged by the British Government in discussions with the European Commission.

Ministers are supporting demands made by the British Steel Corporation and the private sector producers for measures to reduce the flow of imports into the Community and Britain from third country suppliers. They want it to be part of the overall Commission strategy to stabilize the European market by coordinated price increases and elimination of surplus capacity.

Under the latest phase of the Commission scheme, European producers are to raise prices by 12.5 per cent from the beginning of next year, with further increases in April and July.

Under the terms of the continuing programme, imports from third countries have been made subject of coordinated price increases between the Commission and individual countries.

British Steel wants those agreements more tightly drawn — and is being supported by the German steel industry. BSC's ability to achieve break-even by the end of next year will depend on the effectiveness of the new round of price increases. Yesterday Mr Bill Richardson, the corporation's manager for prices and contracts, underlined the importance it attaches to controlling the flow of imported steel.

Total imports account for about 20 per cent of United Kingdom steel sales, with about 10 per cent of the market claimed by third country imports amounting to about 1 million tonnes. Speaking to an Institute of Purchasing and Supply conference in London, he said the corporation was urging the Commission, which will shortly be renegotiating agreements with third country suppliers, to secure revisions on existing agreements embracing both volume and prices.

The steel corporation wants the volume of shipments related to levels of the past year, rather than those of peak years in the late 1970s. The Commission is also being asked to seek modification of the prices at which imports enter Britain.

Under existing agreements, imports from European Free Trade Area countries can come in at prices up to 3 per cent below those charged by BSC. In the case of other countries the differential can be as high as 6 per cent.

Meanwhile, producers have already begun preliminary discussions with the Commission on the arrangements which will follow the existing pact between producers and the Commission, which expires next summer.

The Commission is not enthusiastic about becoming involved in controlling price levels. The present agreement, but, among producers, there is a strong feeling that the Commission will be required to maintain a surveillance role in controlling production levels if progress towards stabilizing the steel market is to be maintained.

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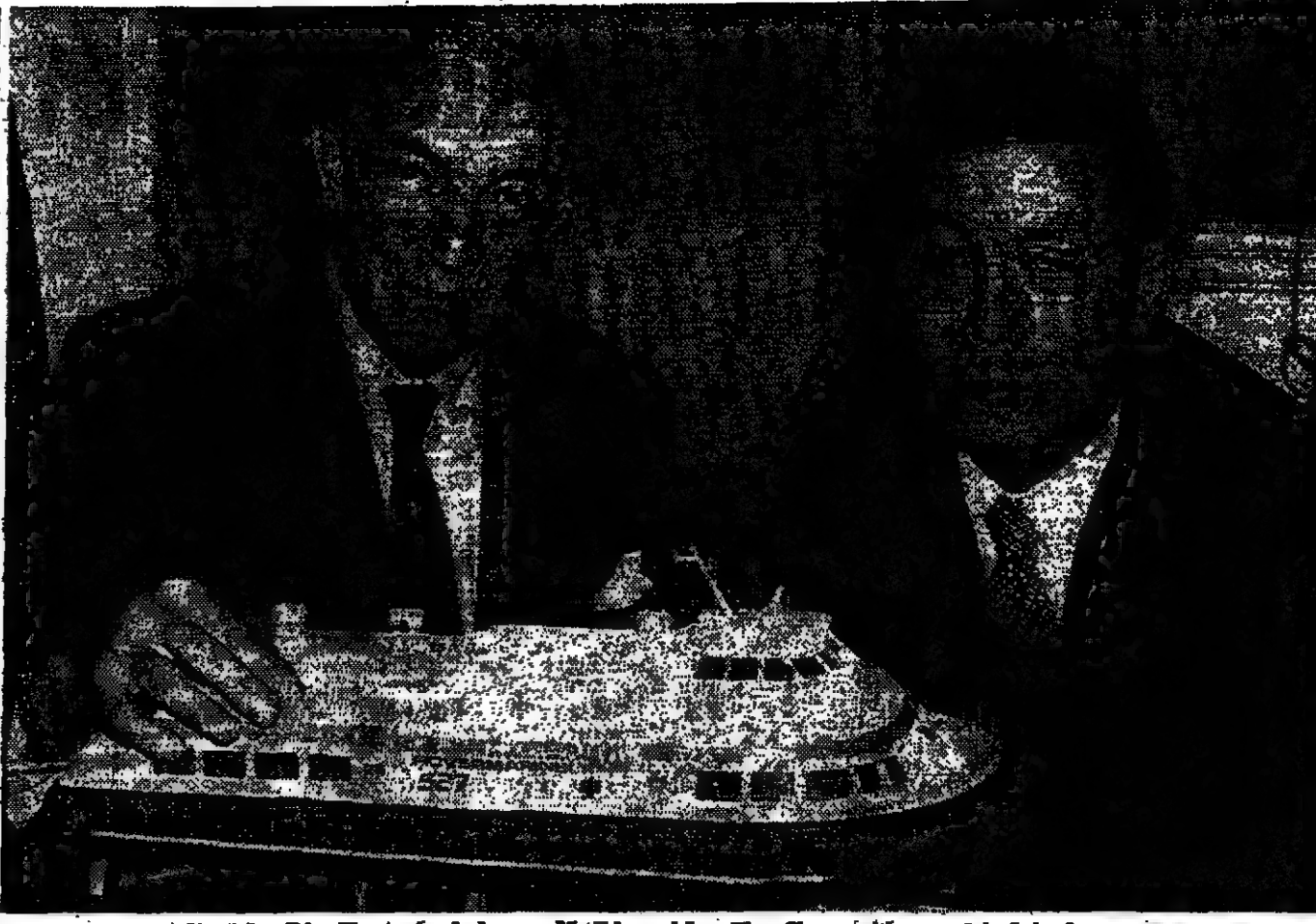
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Sir John Rix, Vosper's chairman, Mr Edmund Lau Ting Chung with a model of the ferry

Vosper wins £1.7m ferry order

By Bryan Phillips

Vosper Hovermarine has clinched orders worth about £1.7m for surface-effect ships — a cross between hovercraft and conventional vessels — which will be used as passenger ferries in Hongkong.

The bulk of the order, worth some £1.2m, has been placed for the large HMS vessels, capable of carrying 200 passengers. The company

announced the main order in London yesterday. It comes from the new Hongkong-based Sealink Ferries, made up of a group of local companies and run by Mr Edmund Lau Ting Chung. He has been in charge of the world's largest ferry operation, the Hongkong and Yau Ma Tei Ferry Company, which has also ordered six

smaller vessels worth about £5m from Vosper. The deal is important for Vosper because it is the first commercial order for the larger surface-effect ship, on which the company's future is staked. Sealink has ordered four craft which will be used on a high-speed ferry service between Hongkong and Macau, a distance of 45 miles.

First of the HMS vessels will be delivered next August and the remainder will be commissioned by July 1983.

Although these orders will not be immediately translated into more jobs, the success of Vosper's surface effect ships has meant a doubling of the workforce in the last two years to 500.

IRAN WILL RAISE OIL OUTPUT

Singapore, Nov 18 — Iran has sufficient gold and foreign currency reserves to continue its war with Iraq to the end and it expects to increase oil output up to 50 per cent by March, according to its central bank governor Mohtashem Nurbakhsh.

Mr Nurbakhsh, who is at a meeting of South-East Asian central bankers here, said Iran had cut spending to meet lower foreign currency earnings and could increase output from its war-damaged oil industry to cope with any shortfall.

He rejected claims by former bank governor Ali Reza Nobari that Tehran faces a critical shortage of spare parts for oil installations.

Mr Nurbakhsh said oil production averaged one million bpd since March and he expected this to rise to 1.5 million bpd by March next year.

We are having no difficulty in getting spare parts even from countries which are not so friendly to us, — Reuters.

More jobs likely at Ferranti

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

Ferranti has formed a joint venture company with General Telephone and Electronics Corporation of America to build and sell telephones.

The initial capital investment is £8m.

Three hundred new jobs are expected to be created within three years at Ferranti's factory at Moston, Manchester.

The new company will be jointly owned with the British company having a 51 per cent stake.

About £500,000 has been contributed by the Government under the Industry Act. The company will have its own manufacturing, development and marketing units with the sales based in London and the manufacture in Moston.

The company will make and sell large Private Automatic Branch Exchanges which will act as the principal developers of electronic offices. The company will compete at the lower end of the telecommunications market by providing telephone handsets.

It intends to sell a substantial proportion of its hardware through British Telecom.

The large PABXs will be capable of providing up to 10,000 lines. In the same three year period over which 300 new jobs are to be created the joint venture hopes to realize a turnover of £25m.

The market for PABXs in the United Kingdom is expected to be worth about £200m.

The joint venture has been precipitated by the British Telecommunications Act which came into effect at the beginning of October. The United Kingdom has been identified by GTE as the largest telecommunications market in Europe for subscriber products.

Telephone handsets, which have been fully approved, are expected to be on sale throughout Britain from next week. Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, published the Government's liberalization programme on Monday which said the supply of PABXs would not be fully liberalized until July 1983.

GTE, which has headquarters in Stamford, Connecticut, had sales and revenues for 1980 of \$9,973m.

The GTE telephone companies spent \$2,500m during 1980 to improve and expand transmission and switching systems and other telecommunications equipment. In 1981 that figure will be increased by 12 per cent.

Job finders switch to computer processing

By Adrienne Gleeson

Two commercial employment agencies are now using computers in their attempts to match job applicants to vacancies.

Brook Street Bureau has just announced the inauguration of a film scheme linking 20 of its London offices to a central computer to provide instant information to all these branches on any vacancy notified to them.

Alfred Marks will announce the introduction of a similar scheme at a City of London exhibition at the end of the month.

The Brook Street scheme, which is called Oscar (Opportunity Selection and Computer Aided Recruitment) is now installed in 20 branches in the City and the West End of London, and will shortly be extended to branches in the larger suburbs.

All the vacancies notified in London are fed into the computer, together with details of the requirements, experience and qualifications of job applicants. The computer then matches applicants to jobs, producing a short list from which employers can make their final selection.

Brook Street has spent three years developing this scheme.

Although the introduction of the Alfred Marks system is not to be announced formally until the end of the month, it has been running in since the middle of 1980. So far 34 branches are linked to the central computer, and another 57 — all in Greater London — are due to come on-line by the middle of 1982. These branches now receive and dispatch information on applicants and vacancies almost immediately, by way of Visual display units. Under the previous system, transmission of information between branches

could have taken up to 48 hours.

The pioneer in using computers in job search in the United Kingdom is the Manpower Services Commission, which introduced a service called Capital in north east London in the mid-1970s, and eventually abandoned it in February this year.

Capital was at least as sophisticated as anything the commercial agencies have produced, but it was also extremely expensive. It was estimated that it would cost £2m to extend it to the whole of London alone, and since its job-matching capacities had become an embarrassment at a time when there might be 50 equally qualified applicants for any one job, it was axed by the Government.

The Manpower Services Commission now relies on a much less sophisticated system, which is being extended to area offices throughout the country. This will record all vacancies (as well as other information required by the Department of Employment), but offers no scope for job-matching.

Lack of cash and doubts about their cost-effectiveness in view of the MSC's experience have inhibited other employment agencies from experimenting with computers for job search.

Both Brook Street and Alfred Marks admit that the computer facilities are most useful in sorting through mass applications and vacancies, and that their application outside large urban centres would be limited. Edward Hurst of Brook Street also says that computer matching becomes progressively less useful as jobs become more complex, because "the intangibles" become progressively more important.

New Renault trucks challenge

Lyons, Nov 18 — Renault plans to renew its range of trucks, buses and coaches by 1986 by launching a new model every three months beginning next year.

M. François Zammit, the commercial vehicle subsidiary's president, said that the objective was to increase Renault's share of the French market to 60 per cent from about 45 per cent at present. This would compare with 65 per cent of the German market held by Mercedes and 70 per cent of the Italian market held by Iveco, a unit of Fiat.

"Our objective is clear. We want to become the world's second ranking producer of vehicles of 15 tons or more, and the fourth ranking of 5 tons or more," he said.

Productivity has been increasing at an annual rate of 10 per cent.

The main competition was not from the United States or Japan, but from Mercedes of West Germany.

The recent devaluation of the French franc was "very timid and very late" and did not offset the inflation differential between Germany and France.

The company's wage bill would increase by 19 per cent next year and it was aware that the current parity of the franc would not be maintained through 1982.

He said that contrary to earlier predictions, the commercial vehicles division would be in deficit this year, but he declined to be more specific. The company posted net earnings of Fr18.3m (£1.75m) for 1980.

The division would continue to devote 4.5 per cent of its turnover for research. — AP-Dow Jones.

Business appointments

Edwards is new chairman of RTZ Industries

Mr Derek Edwards is the new chairman and chief executive of RTZ Industries.

Dr Dennis Oliver, former chairman at Pilkington's optical division, will be chairman of the two groups into which it has been divided but will be succeeded as chairman of the ophthalmic division by Mr Geoffrey Hey, from January 1. Dr Oliver will remain a director of the ophthalmic division and chairman of the electro-optical division.

Mr R. J. B. Nairn is the new financial director and company secretary of Polywax Products.

Mr M. J. Giles will become chief executive, Quinton Hazell Automotive Europe, succeeding Mr H. W. Joynt, who has been appointed director, management services division of the Burnham Group.

Mr Len Shorthouse has been appointed by BIX (UK) as director engineering services.

Mr David Sadler is the new director of corporate planning and development for LEC International.

Mr Guy Heald, vice president, has been appointed foreign exchange manager of the London branch of Chemical Bank. Mr Paul Chappell, assistant vice president, has become chief dealer of spot foreign exchange trading.

Mr William R. Porter has become managing director of the Stourbridge Brick Co.

Mr V. J. Lowe has been appointed a director of Edward Jones Group.

Mr Philip J. White had become a non-executive director of Thomas Robinson, and Sons.

Mr I. F. Higson, assistant managing director, GRA Promotions and Mr J. B. Dawkins, group chief accountant, have been appointed to the board of GRA Property Trust, the holding company of the GRA Group.

Mr Brian J. Overall has become technical sales director of F & R Cooling.

Shorthouse promoted to BIX

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NOTICE OF ISSUE

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the undermentioned Stock to be admitted to the Official List.

ABRIDGED PARTICULARS

Essex Water Company

(Incorporated in England on 11th July, 1981 by the South Essex Waterworks Act, 1981, the name of the Company being changed on 1st July, 1970 by the Essex Water Order 1970.)

OFFER FOR SALE BY TENDER OF

£6,000,000

10 per cent Redeemable Preference Stock, 1986

(This Stock will mature for redemption at par on 31st December, 1986)

Minimum Price of Issue £100 per £100 Stock

yielding at this price, together with the associated tax credit at the current rate, £14.28 per cent.

This Stock is an investment authorised by Section 1 of the Trustee Investments Act, 1961 and by paragraph 10 (as amended in its application to the Company) of Part II of the First Schedule thereto. Under that paragraph, the minimum rate of dividend on the Ordinary Capital of the Company was 4 per cent but, by the Trustee Investments (Water Companies) Order 1973, such rate was reduced to 2.5 per cent. In relation to dividends paid during any year after 1972.

The preferential dividends on this stock will be at the rate of 10 per cent, per annum and no tax will be deducted therefrom. Under the imputation tax system, the associated tax credit at the current rate of advance corporation tax (7½% of the distribution) is equal to a rate of 4½% per cent per annum.

Tenders for the Stock must be made on the Form of Tender supplied with the Prospectus. A deposit of £10 per £100 nominal amount of Stock applied for must accompany each Tender, which must be sent to Deloitte Haskins & Sells, New Issues Department, PO Box 207, 128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4P 4UX, in a sealed envelope marked "Tender for Essex Water Stock" so as to be received not later than 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 25th November, 1981 being "the time of the opening of the subscription lists", and before which no allotment will be made. The balance of the purchase money will be payable on or before Monday, 21st December, 1981. Tenders must be for a minimum of £100 Stock applied for and above that in multiples of £100. A separate remittance must accompany each Tender, and Tenders at different prices must be made on separate forms.

STATUTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The Company, then named South Essex Waterworks Company, was incorporated by Special Act of Parliament in 1861 and under this and subsequent Acts and Orders now supplies water in an area of approximately 594 square miles including the London Boroughs of Barking, Havering and Redbridge (part); the Borough Councils of Chesham, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock and the administrative areas of the District Councils of Basildon, Braintree (part), Brentwood (part), Castle Point, Maldon and Rochford. The estimated population directly supplied is 1,349,000 persons. The length of the Company's trunk and distribution mains is approximately 3,413 miles, supplying some 530,000 domestic and 12,000 metered consumers with, on average, 83.4 million gallons of water daily. In addition, supplies of water are afforded in bulk to the Anglian Water Authority and the Lee Valley Water Company.

The present issue is being made to provide funds to redeem £500,000 of 3.5 per cent (formerly 5 per cent) Redeemable Preference Stock, 1980/81 and £200,000 4½ per cent Redeemable Debenture Stock, 1980/81 on 31st December, 1981, and £4,000,000 of 9 per cent Redeemable Preference Stock, 1982 on 2nd January, 1982. The balance of the proceeds will be used towards the financing of capital expenditure incurred or to be incurred on modernising and extending existing works and on mains and other works necessary for the maintenance and improvement of supplies in the Company's area.

Copies of the Prospectus, on the terms of which alone Tenders will be considered, and Forms of Tender may be obtained from:

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Looking to New York for inspiration

After the cautionary signals from the Bank of England and the rather dampening remarks from the Chancellor on interest rate prospects, the gilt edged market has taken a breather over the past couple of days — though the authorities have been able to feed out low coupon stock at the short end of the market. Understandably, attention has turned to the United States in the search for fresh inspiration. Yesterday's injection of reserves by the Fed at 12½ per cent was taken as encouraging, but it will probably take several more days for markets to get a better feel for what may have been decided at Tuesday's meeting of the Open Markets Committee. Last night the feeling in London seemed to be that the new Treasury 14 per cent 1986 stock could still attract a reasonable response. This morning, albeit not the rapturous one that looked to be on the cards early on Monday.

Beecham Group Moving off a plateau

Due in good part to the recent weakness of sterling, Beecham's profits look set to be bound off the plateau on which they have languished for the last four years. The extent of the group's exposure to fluctuating exchange rates can be gauged from the fact that reported pretax profits for the half year to September 30 at £81.6m would have been £10.8m higher if the company had calculated exchange rates at the end of that month instead of at March 31. Even so, the 27.5 per cent rise to £81.6m was at the top end of expectations and analysts' projections for the full year are now being upgraded from around £180m to perhaps £200m against £150.6m pretax for 1980-81.

The interim profits were split broadly between pharmaceutical and consumer products. In the latter division, the Bovril acquisition again made a big contribution and improved margins. Indeed, since total group sales grew by just under 14 per cent to £639m, the higher overall profit owed more to better margins and higher volume than price increases. Helped by a good performance in the United States by the Titrax antibiotic, the continuing strength of Amoxil in the United Kingdom and Japan, pharmaceutical volume growth was probably around 10 per cent.



Sir Graham Wilkins, chairman of Beecham Group

Longer-term, there are worries over the tough attitude the Japanese may adopt towards foreign drug companies. At present, however, Beecham's products appear to be welcomed and there is scope for European pharmaceutical companies to arrange licensing and marketing deals for Japanese products which should bring mutual benefits. Beecham shares have performed strongly over the last year, reflecting the large overseas exposure. They rose a further 4p to 228p last night, just a whisker below their 1980-81 peak.

● RIT and Guinness Peat have held a common interest in Esperanza for a long time, but the severing of the connection by RIT's purchase at 130p a share of GP's remaining 9 per cent holding is convenient to both. For GP it brings £1.4m cash, which will be welcome after a difficult year, and is consistent with the declared policy of concentrating on mainstream financial and commodity operations. For RIT, however, it is the beginning rather than the end of the story.

Although Takeover Panel rules compel RIT to make a general bid for the company, the 9 per cent it has carried its total holding to 38.5 per cent, it is doubtful that

RIT expects or wants full control, or even perhaps a majority of the equity. The offer values Esperanza at £15m, probably rather more than RIT wants to commit to a single business at the moment, and its purposes are just as well served by a stake of 40 per cent or so, especially since the departure of GP leaves RIT the single biggest shareholder.

RIT's purposes are two fold. Most important, Esperanza's worldwide operations could open many doors for RIT. The company's involvement with shipping, particularly, gives it representation in 48 countries. Esperanza is also the kind of company ideally suited to the development of financial services, a main part of RIT's strategy.

Second, Esperanza's pretax profits recovered to £3.82m in the last financial year, and at 130p a share the company looks a good buy. RIT will be able to include these profits as those of an associated company and the nature of Esperanza's operations mean that there is unlikely to be a call for funds. If the deal represents something of a contraction for GP, it is another sign that RIT is an up and coming force.

W. H. Smith

Cutting its losses in US

W. H. Smith has finally bitten the bullet in the United States and decided to pull out of contract book distribution and general publishing, concentrating instead on the profitable activities of the remainder — bagging book business and religious publishing. And with losses in the United States running at £3.1m in the first eight months of the year, against £147,000 in the same period last year, that should give the group a useful boost from here on. As it is, the pretax return in the group's "low season" is up from £817,000 to £3.1m, so it looks as if the full year out-turn, excluding property sales, could be heading towards £21m against £16.1m last year.

To date the United Kingdom wholesaling side has benefited from the lower incidence of industrial disputes, the increase in newspaper cover prices, the rise in circulation of the "pops" on the back of binge, and the rush of publishing that went with the royal wedding. There has also been a virtual elimination of losses on book wholesaling in Britain, and book distribution, while still losing money, is doing so at a reduced rate.

Redland/Marley A slap on the wrist

Both Marley and Redland, the building materials groups, taken to task by the Monopolies Commission, may now regret putting large glossy photographs of their roof tiles on the covers of their most recent annual reports. Market reaction to the Commission's report was to mark down the shares of the two companies after hours by almost 10 per cent at one point, although the price of both recovered a little later: Marley to 34p, and Redland to 142p, 15p down.

The recovery reflects the view that the Commission's report is not, for the time being, at least, going to do anything to damage either group's profits. The report represents a slap on the wrist in the past and a potential slapped wrist in the future, but for the present, it has stopped short of ordering divestment or directly altering the companies pricing policies. Indeed, the signs are that neither company is going to alter its pricing policy or trim margins. The hint that the public sector should buy elsewhere will have, at best, only a marginal effect on either company.

United Kingdom roof tiles sales do in any case represent less than 10 per cent of total sales for both companies. Even with the margins that the Commission suggests the companies are making, roof tiles represent a useful but not main source of profits. At present, there seems little reason to revise projected profits this year of about £15.5m for Marley and £42.5m for Redland. The crucial time will come when the building industry picks up again, if the Office of Fair Trading decides to get tough.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the Treasury Select Committee on Monday that the fight against inflation remained the Government's central economic objective and the "control of sterling M3, the broad measure of money, its principal weapon in the battle. Suggestions that the Chancellor was about to abandon the pre-eminence of sterling M3 in favour of a range of other economic dials — broad and narrow measures of money, growth of money and the broad measure of money, its principal weapon in the battle. Suggestions that the Chancellor was about to abandon the pre-eminence of sterling M3 in favour of a range of other economic dials

Signs over the past year or so that the Government has become increasingly concerned about limiting movements in the exchange rate do not seem to have been reflected in the emergence of any coherent policy on what the value of the pound should be. Earlier this year, when the pound was very strong, ministers continually referred to the exchange rate as a reason for bringing interest rates down. In September, when the Bank of England intervened to drive up interest rates, the desire to avert a sterling collapse was said to be the principal factor. But on both occasions the money supply indicators and the movement in the exchange rate were pointing in the same direction.

In the first instance, when interest rates were coming down, the Government had no reason to suppose that money supply growth was outside its target range for this year, while the exchange rate was clearly damagingly high from the point of view of industry.

Economic notebook

Why Sir Geoffrey needs an exchange rate policy

The Government's confidence was further boosted by the rapid fall in the rate of inflation.

In the second, a weak pound and (as far as could be discerned through the statistical fog created by the Civil Service dispute) runaway money supply both pointed in the direction of increasing interest rates. This time the drop in sterling was seen as posing the most immediate threat to the Government's counter-inflation strategy.

Now, for the first time since the Government started thinking seriously about the exchange rate, the pound and the money supply dials are pointing in opposite directions.

The pound, helped by falling interest rates in America and elsewhere, has revived and the money supply dials are signalling that this calls for lower interest rates in Britain, too. But the money supply, boosted by buoyant bank lending mainly to the personal sector, is careering out of control.

Now that the exchange rate has ceased to be an immediate problem and no longer threatens to ruin the counter-inflation strategy the Chancellor has turned his attention back to the indicator that

does — the money supply. That is why the Bank acted on Monday to stop interest rates in the markets from falling. The Government is frightened that lower interest rates will lead to a money supply explosion.

It remains to be seen what the Chancellor will decide to do if the pound begins to rise again. This is all too possible if Britain attempts to pursue a tight money policy with high interest rates, while interest rates in the rest of the world are tumbling.

While this would be good news for inflation, the Government surely could not contemplate with equanimity any rise in the exchange rate which threatened to repeat the 'destructive impact on the British industry of 1980 appreciation of the rate. Yet any attempt to bring down the value of the pound would run directly counter to the money supply target.

The Government shows no sign of having a policy to cope with this inconsistency. This is partly because it feels, in the face of the evidence, that it is better able to control the money supply than the exchange rate, because the money supply is less subject to outside shocks, like oil price rises.

It also believes that domestic money growth influences the exchange rate. So, for example, it is fairly pointless to intervene to keep the pound from rising if tight money policies at home, relative to policy abroad, are pushing it up.

(It is fair to say that the Chancellor does not accept that the money supply is the principal determinant of the exchange rate. This proposition was argued by, among others, Professor Alan Walters, the Prime Minister's economic adviser, last year when he suggested that the rising exchange rate reflected tight money conditions, even though sterling M3 was running well above target.)

Sir Geoffrey's overriding commitment to a tight money supply target would seem to rule out any early move towards joining the European Monetary System. Though the Government has shown itself prepared to stop the pound from dropping to levels which would wreck the inflation strategy, it has demonstrated little interest in curbing any rise.

Moreover, to the extent that the Government does take a view on the exchange rate, it is couched in terms of the effective rate, which is

thought to have most significance for inflation, rather than the rate against European currencies. Although Britain now does more than half its trade with Europe, including countries outside the EMS but with currencies linked to it informally, the dollar remains the biggest single influence on the effective rate.

Sir Geoffrey has repeatedly argued, with justification, that an exchange rate target, inside or outside the EMS, does not absolve the Government from taking economic decisions — on interest rates, taxation and public spending — which may be unpleasant. To stop the pound falling, for example, would normally mean higher interest rates and more contractionary policies.

But, apart from those who believe in magic, many proponents of a policy of an exchange rate target taking precedence over a money supply target do so because they believe that it would provide a better guide to policy when the two conflict. The crucial importance of the exchange rate to industrial competitiveness and finances, and the speed with which changes affect the economy, mean that the Government risks inflicting uncertainty and long-term damage by leaving the rate to react, unbridled, to every economic shock and change of sentiment.

The anti-inflation dream of Sir Geoffrey may once again provoke industry's nightmares.

Frances Williams

Are the young really pricing themselves out jobs?

In January the government is to launch its new "Young Workers Scheme" to encourage employers to recruit more young people at realistic wage rates. It plans to pay £15 a week to employers who keep young people's gross earnings below £40.

The scheme is designed to encourage employers to provide more jobs for youngsters and is, it might be thought, a very worthy abandonment of free market principles to provide much needed opportunities for the "generation at risk".

But it is based on a completely unproved assumption, that young people's wages are pricing them out of jobs — that the levels of pay for the under twenties is a root cause of youth unemployment. It is an assumption almost universally accepted.

Even a leading article in *The Times* of October 9 talked of "greedy wage claims and union intransigence about levels of starting pay" being among the causes of unemployment. Yet the figures tell a different story. In 1975,

according to statistics given in recent parliamentary answers to Mr. Alex Lyon, MP, males under 18 years of age were earning 41 per cent of adult earnings. In 1980 the figure was 39 per cent. In 1975 females under the age of 18 were earning 38 per cent of the adult rate. In 1980 they were earning 35 per cent.

In other words there has been very little change in the proportion of young people's wage rates to those of adults — if anything there has been a slight decline. Yet all the talk would lead one to believe exactly the opposite, that figures would show dramatic increase in young people's wage rates to account for higher youth unemployment.

The danger in this so far unchallenged conventional wisdom is that it could mean reduced living standards for young workers and would also be the stalking horse for lowering adult rates, particularly through the system of Wages Councils and Boards which are supposed to protect the conditions of workers in the recent organised and

lowest paid sections of industry. The myth of young people "pricing themselves out of jobs" is heard frequently.

"Not enough apprentices are being taken on in agriculture and other industries because the younger element of the workforce is overpriced", a National Farmers Union representative was recently quoted as saying.

"Young people had been priced out of the jobs market because of the high wages they were paid", according to the report of a speech by Mr. Nigel Vinson, chairman of the Development Commission, at a conference in the summer of the Country Landowners' Association on creating jobs in rural areas.

In an article in *The Daily Telegraph* in August, Tory MP Mr. Richard Needham speaks of a Post Office scheme some two years ago paying 16-year-olds at the rate of £4 a week. "It is this type of ludicrous union-negotiated starting wage which is the cause of most of our self-inflicted problems", he complains.

It is a seductive argument. For Mrs. Thatcher it takes the blame for some of the present unemployment away from her Government and for many employers it is a perfect opportunity to cut wages. But examples of the effects of these alleged high wages in actual job losses are sparse indeed.

On the contrary, a 1980 Department of Employment Research Paper, "Youth Unemployment", by Peter Makenzie, who undertook a fairly rigorous examination of national statistics on unemployment, concluded among other things, "that variations in youth unemployment do not appear to have any systematic relationship with changes in the relative earnings of young people". Nor are the changes of earnings significant anyway.

The figures given in the parliamentary answers to Mr. Lyon on July 13 show that there is a huge gap between average gross weekly earnings for under 18s and for those on the adult rate. In 1980 the figure for under-18s



A junior at work in a London hairdresser's; many trainees are in fact doing productive work.

was 53 per cent for males and 67 per cent for females (an indication not so much that the girls are doing well, as of the low basic rates for adult women).

Figures dealing with the earnings of apprentices and full-time trainees in relation to average adult earnings again show very little movement since 1975 and 1978.

Much is made of the relatively low pay of young people abroad, especially in West Germany, but little mention is made of the much higher level of training carried on there. Most West German young people are subject to a training contract. They have a security of day-to-day wages and complete their training with a legally recognised qualification.

What kind of jobs do young people do? A small minority are in training. They include apprentices who are generally training and who do not contribute their full "whack" to begin with. However, as they go on, they make bigger and bigger contributions. Yet their wages are only about half the average adult rate. There are also many so called "apprentices" who could be included in the statistics but who are doing a productive job, like many young hairdressers.

But the majority of under-18s who are at work are fully effective workers. They work in unskilled jobs, learn in a few days and, like the checkout girls at many department stores, are just as productive as adults.

To sum up: — there is no evidence that young people get "high" wages. Government statistics show them getting an almost constant proportion (around half) of adult rates. — statistical studies show that there is no correlation between young people's rates

of pay and their rates of unemployment.

— only a small proportion of young people are in training. Many are providing services as adults (for example retail distribution) and hence would justify getting far higher rates.

— the whole "pricing themselves out of jobs" argument, far from being a plan for providing jobs, can be seen in another light — as a wage-cutting, cheap labour exercise. The planned "Young Workers Scheme" of providing Government subsidies to employers who hold wages down, will throw a deliberate spanner into the works of collective bargaining machinery and encourage many employers at present bound by wage council minimum rates to break the law.

— youth employment, like adult unemployment arises from the economic situation and Government policy.

Chris Kaufman

The author is a research officer with the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	15 %
Barclays	15 %
BCCI	15 %
Consolidated Crd.	15 %
C. Hoare & Co	15 %
Lloyds Bank	15 %
Midland Bank	15 %
Nat Westminster	15 %
TSE	15 %
Williams and Glyn's	15 %

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Business Diary: Third time lucky for MTTA?

Britain's beleaguered machine tool industry yesterday found itself yet another leader in Kenneth Lane, executive chairman of Kearney & Trecker Marwin.

Lane takes over as the director general of the Machine Tool Trades Association, it was announced after yesterday's general council meeting in London. Lane has a hard road ahead of him. He is the third director general of MTTA this year. His predecessor Roy Ward reigned in the chair for only four months, before resigning out of the Association's Bayswater offices complaining that a small cabal within the MTTA was thwarting his attempts "to drag the industry into the 1980s".

The industry, like the association, needs all the help it can get. Production has collapsed over the last ten years.

Although there were strong undertones of a personality clash between Ward and the MTTA hierarchy the same could not be said of the long serving, Howard Barrett, Ward's predecessor as director general, who retired last May. But at the time of his retirement even Barrett did attempt to disguise his unhappiness at the lack of responsibility afforded to the director general of the MTTA.

Says who?

A pat on the back yesterday for the British Airports Authority and Humberside County Council came from no less august a body than the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. Their financial reports were judged the best of 73 entries for the institute's fledgling Public Sector Accounts Award.

The BAA won praise for the quantity and quality of the information it made public and the clear language of its presentation, especially in a separate report for its employees, something the institute values highly. Humberside, too, picked up marks for the simplicity of its presentation and easy-to-follow language. In these cost-conscious days, the inexpensive production did not pass unnoticed either.

Humberside also scored high in the judges' view because of the objective and dispassionate nature of its report. Local authorities, appearing, being political animals, tend to let their colours show in the presentation of their figures.

Indeed, financial information not disclosed was as much a talking point at the award ceremony at the Guildhall as was what had been made public.

Central government depart-



"I think I've solved it. We still reduce the fares — but you have to pay to get off."

ments are the worst offenders in that respect, although nationalised industries and health authorities are not blameless either. Local authorities are now covered by a recent code of practice. Central government's absence of entries was highlighted by Hubert Monroe, chairman of the judges and Special Presiding Commissioner for Income Tax. Indeed, his own department was a non-starter.

But the problem seems to be that central government departments just do not publish suitable reports, rather than that there is any Machiavellian plot of secrecy.

Debts delight

A reduction in the size of business debts per firm is the "first sign of the recession bottoming out" according to Herbert Young, president of the West Riding Trade Protection Association which holds its 123rd annual general meeting in Leeds today.

Debts recovered during the year reached the highest yet figure of £4.5m and this money is recirculated back into industry. The association, which collects debts throughout Britain, the EEC countries and as far as the Pacific, employs no personal collectors but does all its business by letter. It is achieving an 80 per cent success rate compared with an average of 65 per cent of debt collection agencies generally.

Young will tell member firms that, while the association is substantially increasing its membership, the number of debts pro rata was reduced over the last quarter of the financial year to August 31, 1981, by about 15 per cent compared with the same period the previous year.

On the debit side, however, in the first six months of the year business failures recorded an unprecedented increase with more than 4,500 liquidations compared with 3,100 in the 1980 period.



Sonja Kjaergaard in London yesterday.

The Dane course
Sonja Kjaergaard was until four years ago secretary to a priest. She is now managing director of a travel company. The priest was Edler Kroger. The Dane who started up the now direct-sell package holiday company which he named after his native village, Tjaereborg. (Say it "char-bawg"), hence the company's advertisement in the United Kingdom with its animated armchair.

Tjaereborg cuts out the high street travel agents, and decided to move into Britain just over four years ago. Mr. Kjaergaard, a divorcee with

two daughters, who says she had learnt a lot about the business by then, was sent here as managing director of the new United Kingdom operation.

Her boss, no longer in active parish work, still runs the travel company. This year Tjaereborg UK carried around 95,000 holidaymakers, making it next biggest direct-sell operator to Martin Rook, the British Airways subsidiary.

Next year the aim is a small increase to about 100,000, unlike the 20 per cent or more extra capacity most package operators have been talking about.

The reason is, says Ms Kjaergaard, that she wants to avoid "late consolidations" — the euphemism for its holidays which disappear as schedules are mashed together, meaning that you may be offered a different hotel, a different flight or even a different country from the one you have booked.

Tjaereborg's British operations saw a profits upturn last season, she says, which might partly offset the bad times the organization has been seeing, especially in Scandinavia. But so far the British end accounts for only 10 per cent of the group turnover.

Ross Davies

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The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81	1981/82	Company	Price Ch'ge	Gross Yld Div1971	Yld Actual	P/E 1980/81	P/E 1981/82
114	100	ABI Hlids 10% CULS	112	10.0	8.9	—	—
76	39	Airsprung Group	68	4.7	6.9	10.8	14.9
52	21	Armitage & Rhodes	44	4.3	9.8	3.7	8.3
200	92½	Bardon Hill	193	9.7	5.0	9.4	11.4
104	88	Deborah Services	97	5.5	5.7	4.8	9.1
126	88	Frank Horsell	121	6.4	5.3	10.9	26.3
110	39	Frederick Parker	69	1.7	2.8	26.1	—
110	47	George Blair	47	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	98	7.3	7.4	7.1	10.7
113	59	Jackson Group	58	7.0	7.1	3.1	7.0
130	103	James Burrough	110	8.7	7.9	8.0	10.1
334	244	Robert Jenkins	282	31.3	10.7	4.1	10.3
59	50	Sermons "A"	57	5.3	9.3	6.8	8.1
224	177	Torday Limited	177½	15.1	8.5	8.6	11.7
23	8	Twinkl Ord	14½	—	—	—	—
80	68	Twinkl 15% ULS	72½	15.0	20.8	—	—
56	33	Unilock Holdings	33	3.0	9.1	5.9	10.0
103	81	Walter Alexander	84	6.4	7.6	5.5	9.8
283	181	W. S. Yeates	218	13.1	6.0	4.1	8.4

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Pressures on the linguists

The demand for linguists grows sharply to market pressures and the need for specific languages is even less stable. A few combinations, such as English with Russian and French, stay fairly popular but while linguists with good French and Italian were in demand at the EEC, now there are now those with more exotic combinations such as Greek, German and English, stand a better chance of employment.

Both the EEC and the United Nations Organization recruit linguists by open competition. Candidates must have a degree, though not necessarily in languages. The EEC demands mastery of three of its official languages in addition to the linguist's mother tongue. The United Nations needs a minimum of two official languages plus mother tongue or language of habitual use, which must be one of its five official languages.

Pay and conditions with these organizations are good, and because many employees are expatriates, staff turnover is low. In its early days, the EEC was recruiting heavily, but it now has vacancies for linguists only rarely and can afford to be very choosy indeed.

The EEC examinations for translators working into English held every two to three years, for example, attract around 500 candidates and only a few are selected on average. They may stay on a waiting list for years vainly hoping for a summons.

As well as their language skills, translators are expected to have some specialist knowledge in subjects such as finance, computing or science. Translating legal documents and legal and linguistic sense is a skill in demand, but qualified lawyers with good language skills are few.

Guages can usually earn more as lawyers than as translators.

Interpreting is the most highly-paid and competitive of the linguistic professions and the biggest employers are the international organizations, including the United Nations and EEC agencies. There is little demand for interpreters in industry, particularly in the United Kingdom, where language skills are traditionally under-valued.

Training and careers for interpreters lie largely in conference work at present. Community interpreters, such as those working in hospitals and law courts, are largely untrained and work on a freelance ad hoc basis. Each year there are about 10 applicants for every place on one of the United Kingdom's few post-graduate interpreting or translating courses. The University of Bath receives some 350 applicants for a year-long diploma in its one-year course. The Polytechnic of Central London runs separate post-graduate courses in interpreting and translating, while combined courses are run at the Universities of Bath, Bradford and Kent.

Candidates do not need a language degree. Assessors look for a quick mind and great powers of concentration, particularly in would-be interpreters, as well as for linguistic skills.

In recent years some colleges and universities, particularly the polytechnics and the science-based technology-based universities, have offered degrees which combine modern languages with scientific or commercial subjects.

The University of East Anglia, for example, offers a BA in European Studies and Social Sciences which includes languages. The University of Leeds offers a BA in European Studies and Social Sciences which includes languages. The University of Manchester offers a BA in European Studies and Social Sciences which includes languages.

Salford offers a BA honours in Languages and Sociology.

A new course at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology leads to a BSc honours degree in Applied Language Studies. It aims to teach how to use linguistic skills to solve problems in communication and it combines linguistics with mathematics, computing and translating.

Polytechnics also offer diploma courses combining languages with business studies and secretarial skills. Many courses last for two years and are run under the auspices of the Business Education Council, Birmingham and Oxford. Polytechnics have three-year courses and Birmingham is trying to get degree status for its course.

For those just wanting a crash course in a language before working abroad, there are an estimated 500 private schools, including the large Berlitz group. Companies often pay for their employees to do a course before posting them overseas and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has its own language centre in London to provide training for its staff.

Fees for private courses range from about £1 an hour at some of the smaller schools up to £6 an hour for tuition in a minority language in one of the big institutions.

There are also secretarial schools in the private sector running courses with differing amounts of language content. The Lycée Français in London is a non-profit-making organization subsidized by the French Government which has been running bilingual secretarial courses for over 50 years.

For further information write to:

The Institute of Linguists,
24a Highbury Grove
London N5 2EA

Sandra Hempel

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Further details and entry forms obtainable from the Headmaster, Cranleigh School, Cranleigh, Surrey GU9 0EG. Telephone: Cranleigh 5597.

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the share's closing price of 178p. On his right is Mr William Matthews, with 1.05 million shares, a director of Aspley & Pearce, and Mr Charles Cary Elwes of Grieseson Grant Nor present, but with the largest holdings, is Mr Philip D'Angelo, the United States director, with 1.45 million shares.

government amendment regretfully accepting that all sectors of higher education, after a long period of sustained expansion, should contribute to the restraint in the rate of increase in public spending was then carried by 273 votes to 21, a government majority of 252.

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